The Muscogee Nation News

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Former Colorado Attorney General nominated for Interior

by Brian Stockes and Brenda Norrell
Indian Country Today

WASHINGTON — The introduction of former Colorado Attorney General Gale Norton by President-elect Bush as his nominee for Secretary of the Interior has environmentalists alarmed and developers celebrating.

"In my administration, she'll have a clear charge," Bush said in a news conference announcing his nominee. "We will restore our national parks systems and we will develop partnerships with states and local governments and private citizens to conserve our lands and resources and protect the endangered species of America."

In a following statement, Norton reiterated the commitment to preserving national treasures, along with partnerships with private citizens and state and local governments, conspicuously leaving tribal governments out of

please see **INTERIOR**..., page 10

New Congress, new look

by Brian Stockes
Indian Country Today

WASHINGTON — With election results finally counted and certified in all 50 states, the federal government is ready to begin business for the year 2001.

President-elect Bush formally began his transi-

See **NEW**..., page 10

It's no snow job—OU is #1

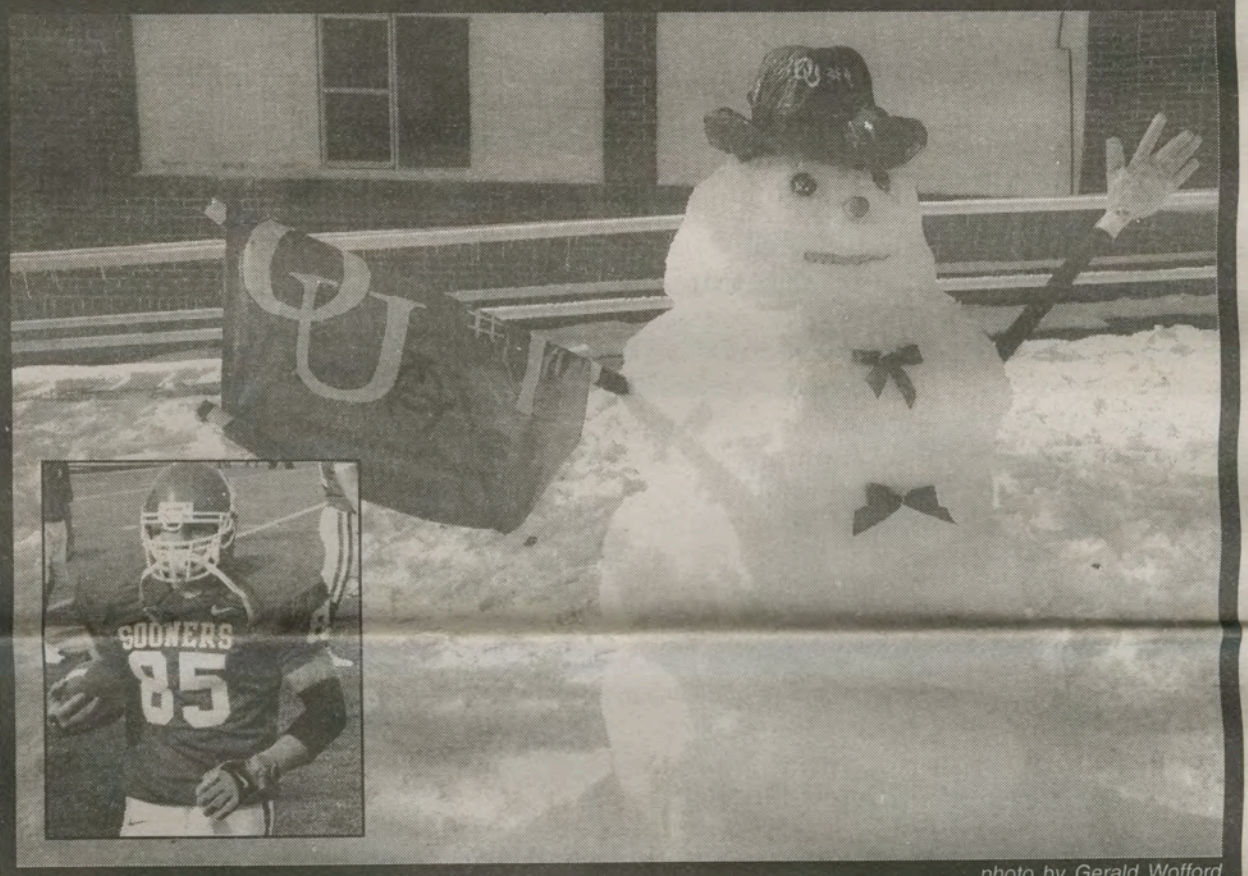


photo by Gerald Wofford

Days of power outages and water cutoffs caused by recent snow and ice storms didn't stop University of Oklahoma football fans from celebrating. Muscogee Nation Community Health Representatives staff found good use for the accumulated snow by creating an OU snowman. The University of Oklahoma football team defeated Florida State University in the Fed-Ex Orange Bowl 13-2 and captured its seventh national championship. Pictured in the inset photograph is tribal citizen and Sooners team member Jeremy Hess of Newcastle. Read more about Hess and OU's Indian players in February's *Muscogee People*.

Indian farmers encouraged to join lawsuit

WASHINGTON — American Indian farmers and ranchers are being urged to join a law suit filed against the U.S. Department of Agriculture on the behalf of the Native American farming community.

The law suit seeks damages for the department of agriculture's alleged failure to give American Indian farmers an equal opportunity to refinance loans.

Lead counsel for the case,

Prerequisites for qualifying as a plaintiff:
- Native Americans that applied or attempted to apply for a farm loan or benefit program with the USDA between January 1981 and December 1999;
- Indians that feel they were

See SUIT..., page 11

See **USDA**..., page 11

MUSCOGEE *people*

Like thousands of other Indian children, Millie Phillips was scarred by forced indoctrination at schools like Carter Seminary and Haskell Institute.

Boarding school memories of demoralizing acts and the loss of language stayed with her through her first marriage and the birth of her children.

It was not until her involvement with the 1969 through 71 occupation of Alcatraz Island, that she began to fully shed the trappings of assimilation and to re-embrace her Indian identity and culture, said friend Jim Fortier of Pacifica, Calif.

photo by Lucas Taylor

Ketcheshawno, right, is pictured with Actress Valentina Lopez Firewalks at the 1999 Muscogee Film Festival. "We Hold the Rock," was featured at the 99 festival.

After graduating from H.I. in the 50s, Millie participated in the Bureau of Indian Affairs Relocation Program and was moved to Oakland, Calif. There, she became very involved in native rights issues locally and nationally. She naturally gravitated to involvement with the Indians of All Tribes occupation of Alcatraz Island

On Nov. 20, 1969 Indians from all over the country gathered on the infamous is-

see **MILLIE**..., page 11

Letters to the editor

Student grateful for tribal financial assistance

Editor:

I am writing to express my sincere appreciation to Muscogee Nation for their generous scholarships.

Without its assistance I would have been unable to attend college. I realized in my senior year of high school that attending college would be very improbable. My parents had divorced and my mother was financially unable to help me. I was forced to live in an extra room in a friend's house and worked over 40 hours a week while attending high school full time.

With the help of God and some luck I was able to capitalize on financial aid to help pay for college. Despite all of the loan money and the federal Pell Grant made available to me, there was still a great need for financial assistance. The tribe made a very noble gesture and compensated me for the large amount of money still needed to attend college. I receive over $3,000 a year from the Muscogee Nation and the only thing asked in return for its generous contribution is for me to do my best in obtaining a higher education. I pledge to do my best to represent the Muscogee people and excel in school to the very best of my ability.

The Muscogee Nation has had such a huge and positive impact on my life, I just hope this letter gives some sense of the great amount of gratitude I feel toward the tribe and its people. Thank you for your generosity and compassion and a special thank you to the higher education staff, who are very helpful and always willing to assist me to the best of their ability.

Tommy Hull, San Antonio, Texas

Student appreciates higher education staff

Editor:

This semester finally is going to be my last semester. It has been a long haul, but I believe I am finally going to achieve my dream of getting through school.

I want to take this opportunity to thank each staff member who make up the higher education department. I have always been met with sincerity and helpfulness each and every time I have contacted the department—as if the people over there actually understand some of the stresses and worries that concern the students who call. So again I say thanks.

On a different note, I appreciate all the financial help that has got me to this point and would appreciate any that could be offered in the future.

Travis Lynn Kimble, Bunch

Citizen questions housing authority operations

Editor:

The Housing Authority of the Creek Nation has always told the Muscogee citizens how much they could help them, but when citizens ask the housing authority for help, the answer they get is, "we are out of money."

This problem has been addressed to the housing board of commissioners and administrative directors and they all seem to turn a deaf ear as though they have never heard this phrase before. Community members in all regions of Muscogee Nation have expressed their concern of being told by housing management that there is no money to help them.

Muscogee citizens, it's time to speak out! I know citizens have been threatened by evictions from their homes. Citizens can't be evicted for speaking out against something that has been told to them by the housing authority. Employees of Creek Nation Housing Authority are afraid to speak

please see **LETTERS**..., page 12

November district court filings

Criminal:

CRF 2000-17 MCN v. Eli: Thomas
CT: 1 Larceny
CT: 2 Possession of Paraphernalia
CRM 2000-11 MCN v. Watashe: Tobie
CT: 1 Public Intoxication
CT: 2 Disorderly Conduct
CRM 2000-12 MCN v. Watashe: Russell
CT: 1 Public Intoxication
CT: 2 Disorderly Conduct

Civil:

CV 2000-129 Oklahoma State University v. Jessie: William D.
CV 2000-130 Greenwood Trust Company v. Thompson: Melissa
CV 2000-131 Sears Roebuck v. McIntosh: Tom S.
CV2000-132 Ervin's Bonding Agency v. Mosquito: Joe

Ex-Parte Orders:

PO 2000-37 Woods: Tina M. v. Gardner: Ronald
PO 2000-38 Williams: Terri v. Williams: Allen
PO 2000-39 Kelough: Crystal v. Deere: Gerald

Staff member remembers Maskoke filmmaker

by Gerald Wofford

In the summer of 1998, while I was attending Red Earth Film Festival in Oklahoma City, I met Maskoke filmmaker Millie Ketcheshawno. I had spoke with her several times by phone—while she was in San Francisco helping out with the American Indian Film Festival and visiting her son, Gino—looking for help and any support I could get to start a film festival here.

Millie was very helpful, providing me with contacts for Native American film producers and directors from the East and West Coast.

As I spoke to her in person, she asked me about my film festival and how it was going, I told her it was still in the planning stages and that I was beginning to have doubts about even starting one.

She encouraged me, as was her character, and also told me about her documentary on Alcatraz Island. She said she would like to show it to me sometime. I said 'sure,' thinking I would probably never see it or that it would be a long time before I did.

As the summer turned to fall and fall to winter, a cold December day brought an unexpected guest.

Millie came in to visit and had brought a rough-cut of "We hold the Rock." I was pleased with what I saw and

please see **KETCHESHAWNO**..., page 12

The Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to ***The Muscogee Nation News***, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of every month.** ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Standard Class A from Okmulgee, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

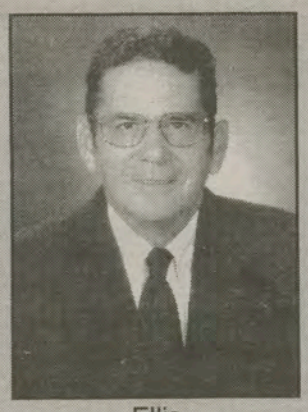
Stephanie Barnett, managing editor
Gerald Wofford, photography
Denise Jacobs, page layout
Jennifer Taryole, circulation

Second opinion

by Second Chief A.D. Ellis

To all Muscogee (Creek) citizens I send greetings.

I hope that you had a happy Christmas and enjoy a safe and prosperous New Year.



Ellis

December has been a very cold month and the weather seems to get colder each year. Our December regular meeting of the National Council was even cancelled because of the extremely cold weather. I look forward to this New Year; for me it represents another year to work to improve tribal operations and improve opportunities for Muscogee people. My first year as second chief has passed and I'm not satisfied with what I've accomplished—I'll always expect more. In the year 2000 I was met with a mountain of paperwork and regulations to be complied with to propel many projects into early planning stages. In 2001 I believe citizens will be able to visually see the many economic development projects that will be forthcoming.

I hope to see and visit with many of you in the near future. I will continue to visit the many communities and nutrition sites throughout the Nation and I invite you to drop by my office anytime. I always have time to visit with citizens.

A big thank you goes to all our employees who keep the tribal programs operating and to the people who understand. May you have a safe and prosperous New Year.

Again, *mvto* to all...

Muscogee National Council overview

OKMULGEE—The following consists of actions of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council conducted at the December regular session held on Jan. 6.

In Council business it:

• returned to committee National Council Act 00-54, a bill establishing guidelines for the tribal burial assistance/ food allowance program and repealing all previous tribal burial ordinances;

• approved (18-2-0) NCA 00-159, a bill amending the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Housing Authority contracts and/ or agreements with contractors for home repairs;

• tabled NCA 00-164, a bill appropriating funds to advertise for bids to demolish the old Sapulpa Head Start building and to construct a new Head Start center at the same location;

• approved unanimously, (21-0-0) NCA 00-173, a bill authorizing the expenditure of a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency "Building Tribal Environmental Capacity — General Assistance" Grant award. The $35,000 award was received by the tribal environmental services program;

• approved unanimously (21-0-0) NCA 00-180, a bill authorizing the expenditure os a U.S. Department of Education "Providing Opportunities With Algebra" Grant received by the tribal division of human development;

• approved unanimously (21-0-0) NCA 00-185, a bill authorizing the Creek Nation Employment and Training Program to modify its budget over 10 percent for the Welfare to Work Program;

• returned to committee NCA 00-187, a law enacting a new law governing the enactment and codification legislation and repealing NCA 96-66;

• approved unanimously (21-0-0) NCA 00-193, a bill authorizing a special appropriation to the Bedouin Shrine Temple located in Muskogee;

• failed to approve (9-12-0) NCA 00-194, a bill amending NCA 99-20 (the election code) article V, section 5-102 to prevent candidates for elective office from serving as employees of the Nation during candidacy;

• approved unanimously (21-0-0) NCA 00-195, approving the Muscogee Nation Reservation Roads Program award for fiscal year 2000 for the construction of roads within tribal boundaries for FY 2001;

• approved unanimously (21-0-0) NCA 00-196, a bill authorizing the office of child care a budget modification in excess of 10 percent;

• removed from the agenda NCA 00-197, a bill authorizing a special appropriation for Springfield Methodist Church;

• approved (11-10-0) NCA 00-198, a bill amending NCA 98-12 (an ordinance amending NCA 92-95 — Tulsa Smoke Shop Act);

• approved unanimously (21-0-0) NCA 00-199, a bill au thorizing the expenditure of the Indian Housing Drug Elimination Program Grant received in FY 2000;

• approved unanimously (21-0-0) Tribal Resolution 00-44, declaring the Mvskoke language as the official language of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

• returned to committee TR 00-45, authorizing the principal chief to execute an agreement between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and West Publishing Company;

• approved unanimously (21-0-0) NCA 01-05, a bill appropriating funds to the God's Helping Hands organization for emergency food assistance to the recent natural disaster (Oklahoma snow and ice storms) victims.

Members question Alabama Quassarte Tribal Town leadership

by Ruth Steinberger
Oklahoma Indian Times

On Aug. 15, 2000, U.S. District Court Judge Michael Burrage issued a federal order in favor of Rebecca Torres. The order overturned a June 2000 Bureau of Indian Affairs decision displacing Torres as chief of Alabama Quassarte Tribal Town.

Torres had filed suit alleging that by displacing her, BIA officials had denied her due process. Torres had been appointed interim chief for a period of one year until a dispute over membership could be resolved. The June letter from Assistant Secretary of the Interior Kevin Gover had rescinded the interim chief position for Torres.

Attorney Gary Pitchlynn, of Norman, has filed a motion to intervene on behalf of tribal town member Alison Alexander and the tribal town governing committee, based on results of an election held in March 1998. The vote included only those eligible for enrollment according to the tribal town constitution.

At question is Torres eligibility to hold office under the membership requirements of the constitution. In the U.S. District Court response to Torres' suit it states, "plaintiff Torres testified that she was unable to meet this Tribe's membership requirements set forth in both the constitution and Tribal Ordinance." The U.S. response also states, "that while there exists a procedure for the federal recognition of Indian tribes...there exists no such procedure for federal recognition of individual tribal members."

This decision follows a lengthy dispute, much of it over tribal enrollment. Some members of the original Alabama Quassarte Tribal Town (AQTT) membership roll claim that Torres' mother, Esther Holloway, questionably inflated tribal enrollment in an effort to increase tribal revenues. Holloway, enrolled as Muscogee (Creek), but not an enrolled member of the AQTT by descent, had served as solicitor and was a tribal administrator since the mid 1980s.

An AQTT election held in 1997 left many members feeling that a growing problem existed in their tribal government. The election was announced for one week in the Henryetta Daily Free-lance. Announcing a deadline of April 10, 1997 to submit ones name to run for office, the ad was placed on April 9, 1997. The phone number to call was a tribal member's home, not the tribal office. The election was slated for May 10, 1997.

Tribal town member Ken Tiger immediately submitted his name to run for chief. A letter dated April 7, 1997 from Michael Richard, a relative of Holloway, notified Tiger that his candidacy had been challenged by A. Wise, a tribal member residing in Arizona, for alleged wrongdoing during a previous term in office. Based on Wise's allegations the tribal election committee ruled Tiger ineligible to run for office. Tiger requested the opportunity to be heard by the election committee to seek a reversal of their decision no later than May 6, 1997 — four days prior to the upcoming election. The election committee upheld their earlier decision, leaving Torres as the only candidate. On June 13, 1997, a letter from Holloway to the BIA Field Representative's Office announced Torres had won the election. A classified ad in the Henryetta Daily Free-lance announced Torres success in the election, stating that she had run unopposed.

On Feb 12, 1998, Torres announced her resignation and said, "and my mother will quit." Torres resignation was accepted by the AQTT Governing Committee on Feb. 12, 1998, by a unanimous vote of the eight of the 12 members present. At that meeting, resolutions passed terminating Dean Daniels, Konawv Holloway, and Esther Holloway by unanimous vote as well and revoking their authority to sign checks and conduct tribal business. Ultimately, Torres recanted the resignation. The clearly worded letter of acceptance was signed by all members present.

A letter dated Feb. 18, 1998 from Okmulgee Agency BIA Superintendent Jimmy Gibson to the area director notes receipt of a letter from Alexander, AQTT Floor Speaker, announcing the earlier actions. The letter concludes that, "after reviewing the legislation it appears that the AQTT Governing Committee has acted within the scope of its authority."

In 1998, questions surfaced over the expanded enrollment. Under Holloway's guidance, enrollment had expanded from less than 150 members to nearly 450. Members of the enrollment committee had never questioned the validity of the membership applications at the time, often enrolling Holloway's family members.

Jacky Yargee, second chief of Alabama Quassarte Ceremonial Ground told Oklahoma Indian Times (OKIT), "we are a small tribe; we know who our people are. And they are people we've known all our lives." Yargee explained, "these are people we've never seen or heard of 'till all this came about." It was not until later that it became clear that many of the newly enrolled members may not be of appropriate descent to be eligible for enrollment, according to the enrollment records of 1890, revised in 1895, or according to the tribal constitution in place since 1939. Some of the newly enrolled individuals did not know that they had been enrolled. One witness told Alexander that they believed the same handwriting appeared on numerous applications.

In February 1998, Alexander and AQTT Enrollment Committee Chair Big Cloud Lewis requested technical assistance from BIA Area Tribal Operations Officer Dennis Springwater in determining that enrolled tribal members meet the eligibility requirements set forth in the AQTT constitution. It was determined by their office that nearly 67 percent of those enrolled did not meet the criteria. Neither Holloway nor Torres were on the list of names meeting the criteria set forth in the constitution for enrollment.

A letter dated Feb 23, 1998 from Springwater revealed that a full review had been completed to determine eligibility based on the criteria within the constitution and the documentation in the files of the members. Included were two lists, one with the names of members who were appropriate for enrollment based upon descent from the enrollment lists of 1890 and 1895. The other list was those whose enrollment did not meet that criteria.

Letters were sent, by Lewis, to all members who were deemed ineligible — notifying them of the review of the membership list which deemed them ineligible — to give opportunity for response or appeal. No responses to this notification were received.

In March 1998, a decision of the BIA restored Jimmy Buckley, the last chief elected by the vote of eligible members according to enrollment, to his position. The governing committee, under Buckley, obtained a court order permit

please see **ALABAMA QUASSARTE...**, page 11

Social services announces field site dates

OKMULGEE — Muscogee Nation Social Services Department is accepting applications for general assistance at field sites in Eufaula, Holdenville, Muskogee, Okemah, and Sapulpa.

The field sites and dates are:

- Okemah Indian Community Center, 1100 S. Woody Guthrie St. — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., Feb. 7 and 21;
- Eufaula Indian Community Center, 800 Forest Ave. — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., Feb. 1 and 15.
- Sapulpa Indian Health Center, 1125 E. Cleveland — applications will be accepted from 1 to 3 p.m., Feb. 1 and 15;
- Holdenville Indian Community Center, 224 E. Poplar — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., Feb. 6 and 20; and
- Muscogee Indian Community Center, 111 S. Virginia — applications will be accepted from 1 to 3 p.m., Feb. 6.

Energy assistance may not be applied for at these regularly scheduled site visits.

Social services still accepting applications

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee Nation Social Services Department is accepting applications for its tribal energy assistance and Low Income Home Energy Assistance Programs until funding is exhausted.

Social services has been taking walk-in appointments since Jan. 8.

The following information is required to complete the application process:

- Certificate Degree of Indian Blood card (CDIB) or tribal citizenship card;
- Social Security;
- income verification for each household member; and
- a heating bill in the applicant or spouse's name.

Additional information will be required for students 18 years or older and individuals caring for minor children other than their own.

For more information, contact the social services department at (918) 756-8700 or 1 (800) 482-1979, ext. 279

Influenza vaccine available at Claremore hospital

CLAREMORE — Influenza vaccine is now available at Claremore Indian Hospital and at other Indian health care facilities for those that are eligible for care.

Influenza can be prevented with this safe, effective vaccine, said Ellen Wolfe, Claremore immunization coordinator. Yearly Influenza vaccine is recommended for: all persons 50 years of age or older, persons older than six months of age with chronic illness; pregnant women; persons six months to 18 years of age receiving chronic aspirin therapy; household members of high-risk persons; and anyone who wishes to reduce the likelihood of influenza.

Influenza clinics at Claremore hospital will be held Monday through Friday from 8 a.m to 3:30 p.m and will be available through March.

Kids at higher risk of carbon monoxide poisoning

OKLAHOMA CITY — Whether a fireplace, furnace, or space heater is used for heating, each have the potential to produce a silent and potentially fatal killer—carbon monoxide.

Colorless, odorless, and tasteless, carbon monoxide can be extremely difficult to detect. It is produced by the incomplete combustion of solid, liquid, and gaseous fuels. Household appliances fueled with gas, oil, kerosene or wood may produce carbon monoxide. It can poison or kill before its victims even know it's there.

For children, the risk of carbon monoxide poisoning increases dramatically. Each year, more than 1,700 children ages 5 and under are poisoned by carbon monoxide in the U.S. Last year in Oklahoma, 13 people died from unintentional carbon monoxide poisonings.

"It is important to be overly cautious when using your heating appliances during the winter months," said Martha Collar, coordinator of the Oklahoma Safe Kids Coalition, a program of the Oklahoma State Department of Health. "Children are at increased risk of being poisoned by carbon monoxide because it tends to accumulate at low heights. Thus children, who spend more time closer to the floor, are more likely to be affected than adults. Children will also show more pronounced symptoms at any given level of carbon monoxide than will adults. Parents and caregivers must remember that the dangers of carbon monoxide poisoning increase when there is less ventilation."

Effects of carbon monoxide poisoning

The symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning often mimic the flu. Long-term exposure can lead to neurological disorders, memory loss, personality changes, and mild to severe forms of brain damage. It is important that parents and caregivers be familiar with the symptoms of carbon monoxide, which include: headaches; fatigue; dizziness; nausea; and diarrhea. Be aware of symptoms that affect the entire household at the same time. Individuals should check with a physician if any of the above occurs.

How to prevent carbon monoxide poisoning.

Safe Kids recommends the following steps to keep the home and family safe and prevent possible poisoning:

- install at least one carbon monoxide detector in the house. A carbon monoxide detector is designed to sound an alarm before dangerous levels of carbon monoxide accumulate in the home. A carbon monoxide detector should give ample time to ventilate the home or get out in time before it's too late. Detectors should be placed in bedrooms and on the ceiling above fuel-burning appliances. Additional detectors on every level provide extra protection;
- have a professional install and inspect the home heating system at the beginning of each winter season. They should check that the furnace is not cracked or missing panels or flue caps to be sure exhaust gases can escape from the home properly;
- never operate gas-powered engines in confined spaces. Never let a car run in an attached garage, even if the garage door is open; and
- have household fuel-burning appliances checked. Look at the color of the gas burner flames and pilot lights. A yellow-colored flame indicates the fuel isn't burning efficiently and could be releasing a higher than usual amount of carbon monoxide.

If a carbon monoxide detector sounds the alarm

If an alarm sounds and family member[s] are feeling symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning, carbon monoxide is at potentially dangerous levels in the home:

- leave the house immediately. Develop and practice a home evacuation plan that includes a meeting place so that all family members can be accounted for; and
- call the fire department, local utility company, or local emergency medical services from a neighbor's home. Do not go back into the house until a firefighter, utility company staff, or emergency response personnel says it's okay to do so.

If a detector sounds the alarm and family member[s] are not feeling any symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning:

- ventilate the home by opening windows, doors, and turning on fans;
- turn off any combustion appliances immediately; and
- call an appliance repair technician to find the source of carbon monoxide.

California Muscogees schedule meeting

COMMERCE, Calif. — The California Muscogee (Creek) Association has scheduled its first quarterly meeting of the new year on Feb. 3.

The meeting will begin at 11:30 a.m. and will be held at Southern California Indian Center, Inc. located at 6055 E. Washington Blvd., Suite 700.

The group was organized in 1999, said Ken Taylor, president. Taylor said there are around 700 enrolled Muscogee living in California.

For more information, call Taylor, president, at (714) 774-3557.

Elders accomplish much in during 2000

OKMULGEE — The Elder Council of the Muscogee Nation has made many accomplishments over the past year, according to its Gray Wolf Journal.

Some it its accomplishments include: membership growth from 18 to 34 regular members; representation of the National Council on Aging Conference in Duluth, Minn; the initiation of a newsletter to keep members informed; creating forums for sharing ideas and discussion on topics concerning senior citizens; and the coordination of a fall festival to promote cultural activities and entertainment.

The Elder Council's plans for 2001 include:

- advocating for more senior programs;
- having input into health care programs for seniors;
- promoting cultural and historical preservation by coordinating trips to Alabama and Georgia; and
- applying for grants to benefit its senior transportation project.

Its meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month at 10 a.m. Dates and locations for the fiscal year are: Feb. 7, — Eufaula; March 7 — Bristow; April 4 — Okemah; May 2 — Holdenville; June 6 — Dewar; July 4 — Muscogee; Aug. 1 — Wetumka; and Sept. 5 — Koweta.

Interested in a class in making traditional Maskoke and Seminole clothing articles?

OKMULGEE — Individuals that are interested in a weekend class in making Maskoke and Seminole clothing articles are being sought.

If enough individuals show interest by responding to the following questions, a class will be scheduled.

What particular piece of clothing would you like the class to emphasize—check one:

___ blouse ___ bandolier bags
___ moccasins ___ other _____

What month would you like the class to be held?

_____

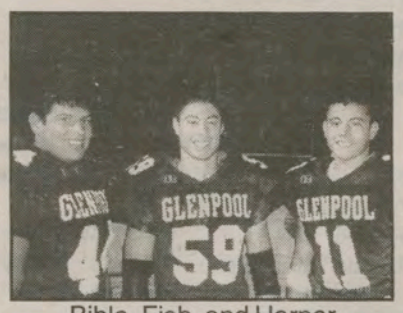
Name _____
address _____
phone number _____
e-mail _____

Seminole-Maskoke textile artist Jay McGirt of Oklahoma City will be conducting the class.

Please return reponses to: Attn. Stephanie Barnett, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447; or e-mail: comm2@ocevnet.org.

Glenpool cousins recognized during senior night

GLENPOOL — Glenpool cousins Jay Bible, Kenny Fish, and Chris Harper, all members of the Glenpool High School Warrior Football Team, were recently recognized during senior night.



Bible, Fish, and Harper

Bible was escorted by: his parents, Kelli and Harry Elrod; sisters, Nicole and Lindsey McIntosh and Jami Elrod; and brother, Taylor McIntosh.

Bible plans to attend college, play baseball, and study law enforcement. Fish plans to attend Oklahoma State University-Okmulgee and Harper plans to attend college and play baseball.

Woman completes basic training

FORT JACKSON, S.C. — Dena L. DeLaune signed with the U.S. Army in June and left for her duty station on Aug. 8 from Oklahoma City.

DeLaune

She was stationed at Fort Jackson, S.C. where she completed and graduated from nine weeks of basic combat training. Completing the course offers soldiers a comprehensive understanding of basic combat skills. It also demonstrates discipline, motivation, ability, and willingness to work as a team member.

She received a marksmanship badge in M16 qualification and expertise in grenade qualification. She received 256 out of a physical training test scale of 300.

She is now stationed at Fort Lee, Va. for her Advanced Individual Training. She will be there for seven weeks and return home for two weeks before reporting to her next duty station.

She is the daughter of Georgeann DeLaune of Okmulgee and Euclid DeLaune of Anadarko.

Maskoke student helps establish stickball team

MUSKOGEE — In recent memory of Bacone College's 120 year history as a school with an Indian oriented mission, there is no recollection of there ever being an active stickball team, official or otherwise. Now, there is a team thanks to freshman Jomekko Hill, with the help of sophomores Ira Hicks, a Muscogee (Creek) and Kevin "Runt" Dry a Keetoowah Cherokee.

Hill, a 20 year old from Henryetta, came to Bacone on a rodeo scholarship where he competes in the team-roping competition. Muscogee and Seminole Indian, Hill brought a strong sense of Indian tradition and spirituality to the school from being brought up as a member of Greenleaf Ceremonial grounds.

Stickball is a traditional Indian game played by various tribes across the nation. "It was a game that Indians played to pass the time just like every other sport," Hill explained. "As the game progressed, the elders and medicine men became involved and it took on a spiritual aspect. For Indians today there is [still] a spiritual connection on the field."

The sport of lacrosse is a direct descendant of stickball with few noticeable differences. One difference is the size of the sticks used, with the ballstick generally being much smaller than a lacrosse stick, thereby requiring more skill.

According to Hill, "When I got here [Bacone] I noticed that it seemed everybody had a sport that they were involved in except for the Indians. There was a lot of Indians doing nothing but sitting around. I thought, 'everybody has got their own sports, why don't we play ours?'"

With this in mind, Hill teamed up with Hicks and Dry and soon had a full team with the support of Bacone's Native American Student Association club members as players. In conjunction with the NASA club from Northeastern State University, the team took it to the collegiate level and is now currently carrying on a friendly rivalry with the NSU team.

The team marked a field on the south end of the Bacone campus next to the Shawnee bypass and is now prepared to take on NSU in some home game action. "It brings more Indian culture to the school than what was already here, and it tends to be what people need," Hill said.

The games are played with a 15-person coed squad on each team and are scheduled according to the schedules of the individual players. As far as anyone interested in watching stickball on the collegiate level, Dry finished off by saying, "whenever we play, everyone is welcomed to watch."

Todd is the daughter of Dustin and Tricia Fields Todd of Tulsa.

Todd

Her maternal grandparents are Cheri Haney of Glenpool and Ira "Poncho" Fields Jr. of Tulsa.

Her paternal grandparents are Pam Smith of Glenpool and Dale Todd of Owasso.

Serena enjoys: dancing at powwows; learning to shake shells; playing with her dog; and making up songs.

She is belongs to the Tiger Clan and Kellyville Stomp Ground.

Baby places at Tulsa Baby Pageant

TULSA — Donavin Cleve Watashe won second place at Tulsa Baby Pageant 2000 held Oct. 15 at the Brady Theater.

Watashe

Watashe was the only Muscogee-Shawnee in the eight month old division to place and win second out of 37 entries.

He is the son of Donnell Watashe of Kellyville.

Watashe is the grandson of Vincent and April Watashe.

He is the great-grandson of Alice and James Watashe Jr. of Kellyville and JoAnn Bagg of Skiatook.

Watashe will celebrate his first birthday on Feb. 7.

He belongs to the Bear Clan.

Society

Tulsa girl celebrates third birthday

GLENPOOL — Serena Todd celebrated her third birthday on Sept. 9 with a "Power Puff Girls" party theme.

Muscogee Veterans

Tribal citizen Charles Fisher was born to Hollis and Lora Fisher on Oct. 10, 1946. Shortly after graduating from Okemah High School, Charles Fisher served with the 314th Tactical Air Lift Wing in Taiwan from 1967 to 1968. The 314th TAW used cargo planes to carry supplies to the troops in the field. In January 1968, Fisher was sent to South Korea when the North Koreans captured their supply ship.

In 1968 to 1970 he worked in South Vietnam at a base called Lai Kai for a company named L.S.I After the war he returned home and married Betty, his wife of 30 years.

He belongs to the Wind Clan. He is the great-grandson of Hannah Barnett and the great-great-grandson of Mary Barnett.

"Sonny" Sampson honored at 25th American Indian Film Festival

SAN FRANCISCO — The late William "Sonny" Sampson was one of three film and television personalities who were honored recently at the 25th anniversary of the American Indian Film Festival on Nov. 11.

He was one of the first board of directors when the festival was organized 25 years ago, said Michael Smith, president.

His son, Tim Sampson, received a standing ovation when he gave a heart rending eulogy in memory of his father.

"As I reported before in The MNN, Tim has been to Chicago and London, with the cast of 'One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest,' portraying the role of Chief Bromden on state — the same role his dad made famous in the movie version 25 years ago," said Norma Jean Bible, sister to the late actor.

In April of 2001, Sampson will be traveling to New York for six months where the "Cuckoo's Nest" troupe will be performing on Broadway.

Pictured at the ceremony are, left to right: Tim Sampson; his aunt, Norma Jean Bible; cousin, Rusty Powell; and great-aunt, Alice Scott Freeman.

Muscogee (Creek) Nati

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ACCOUNTING

Mitchell, Tom	237	Cash Manager
Buckley, Sheila	239	Acct. Spec.
Lowe, Sharon	241	Travel Coord.
Montgomery, Sherry	242	Accts. Payable
Vaughn, Joyce	236	Bookkeeper Supv.

BUDGETS & CONTRACTS

Guthrie, Kathy	251	Supervisor
Booker, Ruby	244	B/C Analyst
Fish, Michael	257	Contract Spec.

CHILD CARE — EXT. 699
(918) 758-1463

Wise, Janet	Manager
Marshall, Edwin	Asst, Manager
Ahtone, Joann	Child Care Spec.
Fields, Kami	Child Care Warrtr.
Fox, Joann	Child Care Spec.
Frank, Newman	Dev/Oper. Coord.
Haynes, Gloria	Child Care Warrtr.
Imotichey, Janis	Child Dev. Spec.
Landsberry, Steve	Systems Analyst
Lowe, Mona	Secretary II
McIntosh, Valaina	Secretary
Thomas, Diane	Child Care Warrtr.
Tiger, Sherry	Child Care Spec.
Watashe, Faith	Liscense./Monitor.
White, Lou	Child Care Spec.
York, Stacy	Office Clerk

EUFAULA CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER
(918) 618-4019

Schunk, Leandra	Center Supv.
Buck, Lydia	Teacher
Deere, Taiwanna	Teacher Aide
Deer, Tenetke	Teacher Aide
Duncan, Stephanie	Teacher Aide
Eslick, Mariena	Cook
Estep, Christy	Teacher
Tankersley, Stephanie	Teacher Aide

HOLDENVILLE CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER
(405) 379-5277

Siegrist, Margaret	Center Supv.
Bear, Loretta	Teacher Aide
Buck, Doreen	Cook
Gordon, Tonya	Teacher Aide
Harjo, Betty	Teacher Aide
Hicks, Angienetta	Teacher Aide
Lowe, Elizabeth	Teacher
Osborn, Lesa	Teacher Aide
Scott, Roberta	Teacher Aide

OKEMAH CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER
(918) 623-0994

Bass, Tonia	Teacher Aide
Berryhill, Estella	Teacher
Factor, Ellie	Teacher Aide
Fixico, Yvonda	Teacher Aide
Hicks, Rosie	Cook
Hill, Eunice	Teacher Aide
Leitka, Karla	Teacher Aide
Thomas,Rita	Teacher Aide

OKMULGEE CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER
(918) 758-1467

Ballard, Gena	Supervisor
Kahbeah, Christie	Center Supv.
Asbury, Daphne	Teacher Aide
Brown, Shannon	Maintenance
Checotah, Etta	Teacher
Contu, Meressa	Teacher Aide
Fife, Mindy	Teacher Aide
Gartrell, Maria	Teacher Aide
Harjo, Mahalia	Teacher Aide
Harjo, Sheila	Teacher
Juneau, Meske	Teacher Aide
Kahbeah, Misty	Teacher Aide
McIntosh, Stella	Teacher Aide
Mordecai, Kimberly	Teacher
Paquin, Twyla	Teacher Aide
Pigeon, Melissa	Teacher Aide
Powell, Karen	Cook
Rogers, Stephanie	Teacher Aide
Sanders, Virgil	Teacher Aide
Thomas, April	Teacher Aide
Tiger, Kellie	Teacher
Washington, Annette	Teacher
Wilson, Belinda	Teacher
Wilson, Marlene	Teacher Aide

OKMULGEE TRAINING CENTER
(918) 756-3340

Factor, Nancy	Resource & Ref.
Hicks, Melody	Provider Trainer
Russell, Cindy	Provider Trainer
Slinker, Laresa	Resource & Ref.

SAPULPA CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER
(918) 248-4262

Denny, Miltona	Center Supv.
Anderson, Veletta	Cook
Barnett, Jeanetta	Teacher Aide
Cahwee, Carol	Teacher Aide
Fuller, Sunny	Teacher
LeGrand, Deanne	Teacher Aide
McNac, Ramona	Teacher Aide
Melton, April	Teacher Aide
Norman, Ellen	Teacher
Parkell, Rhonda	Teacher Aide
Shelton, Christi	Teacher Aide
Wise, Bonnie	Teacher Aide

TULSA CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER
(918) 296-3331

McCoy, LuAllyn	Center Supv.
Barnett, Rachael	Teacher Aide
Begaye, Rinda	Teacher Aide
Bowie, Audrey	Teacher
Daniel, Victoria	Teacher
Edgar, Pam	Teacher Aide
Hooper, Sonya	Teacher Aide
Johnson, Julie	Teacher Aide
McLaughlin, Leslie	Teacher Aide
Morris, Diane	Teacher
Smith, Sandy	Teacher
Tiger, Sally	Cook
Tiger, Theresa	Teacher
Watashe, Christina	Teacher Aide
Watashe, Renae	Teacher

CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES — EXT. 698/697
(918) 756-2112

Sunagoowie, Jack	Manager
Anaya, Yvette	Legal Secretary
Ballenger, Lila	Family Pres. Wkr.
Berryhill, Louise	Family Pres. Spec.
Burnside, Michael	Counselor
Deere, Wadley	Child Treat. Wkr.
Edwards, Dawn	Child Place. Spec.
English, Nell	Child Protection
Fixico, Donna	Secretary
Frank, Florence	Intake Specialist
Frank, Patsy	Child Treat. Spec.
Frazier, Nancy	Child Treat. Wkr.
Humble, Carol	Intake Specialist
Johnson, Linda	Family Pres. Wkr.
Little, Shannon	Child Treat. Wkr.
Marshall, Lena	Child Place. Spec.
McGee, Joy	Couselor
Noon, Alisha	Child Treat. Wkr.
Noon, Malinda	Child Treat. Wkr.
Screechowl, Eddie	ICW Coordinator
Smith, David	Child Protection
Tarpalechee, Sebrina	Admin. Assistant
Thomas, Pearl	Family Pres.

CITIZENSHIP BOARD

Tecumseh, Kath.	224	Manager
Crowels, Rebecca	219	Enrollment Spec.
Haney, Roberta	219	Enrollment Spec.
Taylor, Sarah	229	Records Mgmt.

COMMUNICATIONS

Barnett, Stephanie	312	Manager
Taryole, Jennifer	327	Secretary
Jacobs, Denise	326	Senior Writer
Wofford, Gerald	220	Audio/Visual Spec.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Tiger, Kenneth	207	Manager
Stewart, Thomas	211	Org. Spec.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Haumpy, Judy	629	Deputy Director
Bruner, Emma	628	Secretary

CONTROLLER'S OFFICE

Pratt, James	250	Controller
Froman, Wanda	248	Secretary
Robertson, Bobbie	258	Tribal Cashier

CREDIT & FINANCE

Scrimshire, Patsy	212	Manager
Hill, Lisa	261	Loan Specialist

CULTURAL PRESERVATION

Bear, Joyce	602	Manager
Thompson, Timmy	604	Research Spec.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Chaney, Ben	268	Coordinator
Frank, JoEllen	399	Secretary

ELECTION BOARD

Harjo, Nettie	350	Manager
Lowe, Tracey	294	Secretary
Varner, Betsy	349	Office Clerk

EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING

Minnick, Danna	620	Manager
Dunn, Barbara	621	Admin. Assist.
Haney, Kathy	622	Intake Clerk
McGirt, Debbie	612	Intake Clerk
Roberts, Teresa	623	Secretary II
Round, Kendra	618	Job Specialist

EUFAULA DORMITORY
(918) 689-2522
1-800-896-3181

Anderson, Gregory	Administrator
Anglin, Lydia	Educational Aide
Barnett, Rebecca	Cook
Burnham, Francile	Secretary
Colbert, Kenneth	Maint. Tech.
Feeling, Mary	Educational Aide
Feeling, Stella	Educational Aide
Grissom, Patricia	Educational Aide
Hagy, Shelly	Health Coord.
Hammontree, Carolyn	Educational Aide
Harjo, Elizabeth	Librarian
Higgins, Jonas	Educational Aide
Kirkpatrick, Joe	Rec. Coord.
Lee, Norma	Admin. Assistant
Lewis, George	Educational Aide
Lewis, Lorene	Educational Aide
McGirt, Lillie	Cook
Mitchell, Jeanette	Custodian
Norman, Gayla	Behav. Counselor
Sloan, John	Maint. Foreman
Spirlock, Lori	Academic Advisor
Stafford, Raylene	Educational Aide
Turner, Charlotte	Educational Aide
Walker, Jimmy	Maint. Tech.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Freeman, William	221	Exec. Director
Fife, Thomasine	222	Exec. Secretary

FACILITIES

Roberts, Danny	361	Supervisor
Beaver, Dora		Night Janitor
Beaver, Twyla		Night Janitor
Byrd, Anthony	361	Alt. Relief Tech.
Byrd, Yahdeka	361	Maint. Worker
Dunham, James	361	Maint. Worker
Frank, Jeffrey	361	Maint. Worker
Hicks, Johnie		Night Janitor
Hood, Ricky		Night Janitor
Johnson, Jimmy		Night Janitor
Lee, Janet	0	Operator
McGirt, David		Night Supervisor
Rash, Ramona	0	Operator

FINANCE

Brady, William	245	Finance Man.
Colbert, Barbara	389	Staff Accountant

FOOD DISTRIBUTION — EXT. 400
(918) 756-2917
(918) 756-3002

Rayon, Linday	Adminstrator
Beaver, Leslie	Cert. Clerk
Berryhill, Rosie	Cert. Clerk
Dunn, Haden	Warehouse Op.
Holuby, Shane	Warehouseman
Lowe, Anita	Cert. Clerk
McGirt, Chester	Warehouseman
Moore, Leah	Secretary
Simons, Laura	Cert. Clerk
Washington, Robert	Warehouse Op.
Woodfield, Steven	Warehse. Coord.

FOUNDATION
(918) 756-2920

Goodman, Barbara	Manager
Buckley, Richard	Maintenance
Pushmataha, Jim	Security
Watashe, Russell	Maintenance
Woodfield, Betty	Secretary

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

Dowdy, Bill	373	Manager
Bigpond, Janice	206	Secretary I
Thomas, Loy	377	Warehse. Spec.
Watashe, Maxine	385	Receiving Spec.

HEAD START ADMINISTRATION — EXT. 337

Tate, Vicki	12	Manager
Bear, Victor	22	Health/Nutrition
Gouge, Jenna	11	Secretary
Henson, Carolyn	23	Parent Specialist
O'Neal, Barbara	24	Ed. Specialist
Smith, Betty	15	S. S. Liaison
Williams, Rita	14	Admin. Assistant

CHECOTAH/EUFAULA HEAD START
(918) 473-0605

Beaver, Mitchell	Supervisor
Colbert, Charlene	Teacher
Dan, Andrea	Teacher
Dowling, Evelyn	Teacher
Francis, Josephine	Cook
Friday, Rayburn	Bus Driver/Maint.
Grissom, Shannon	Family Serv. Wkr.

on Personnel Directory

n 11-06-00

(918) 756-8700

00) 482-1979

Hallum, Nellie	Teacher
Morsette, Judy	Teacher Aide
Tiger, Mitchell	Bus Driver/Maint.

OKMULGEE HEAD START
(918) 758-1420

Johnson, Kevin	Supervisor
Beach, Ladonna	Cook
Bear, Jennifer	Teacher Aide
Durrett, Amanda	Teacher Aide
Duvall, Martha	Teacher
Hammon, Barbara	Teacher
Harjochee, Billie	Teacher Aide
Hughes, Karen	Family Serv. Wkr.
Phillips, Elizabeth	Teacher
Proctor, Fallon	Teacher Aide
Rawdon, Kimberly	Cook Aide

SAPULPA/TULSA HEAD START
(918) 227-4931

Davis, Tasha	Supervisor
Baker, Joanna	Family Serv. Wkr.
Frazier, Anthony	Teacher
Goodvoice, Debra	Teacher Aide
McDermott, Reba	Cook
Narcomey, Jacob	Bus Driver/Maint.
Simms, Madja	Teacher

WILSON HEAD START
(918) 652-3922

McGirt, Ann	Supervisor
Branum, Anita	Teacher
Brewer, Patricia	Cook
Francis, Angela	Bus Driver/Maint.
Frye, Carol	Teacher Aide
Wind, Daniel	Family Serv. Wkr.

YEAGER HEAD START
(405) 379-6693

Lowe, Janice Grace	Supervisor
Bishop, Sonia	Teacher Aide
Deer, Molesia	Teacher
Harjo, Loretta	Cook Aide
Hulstine, Nancy	Teacher Aide
Johnson, Elouise	Cook
Johnson, Mary	Family Serv. Wkr.
Moppin, Sara	Teacher Aide
Morrow, Larry	Bus Driver/Maint.

HIGHER EDUCATION

Davis, Chanenna	614	Manager
Durden, Christine	616	Office Clerk
On-The-Hill, Jerrie	615	Secretary

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Wind, Patricia	607	Deputy Director
Greene, Johnnie	609	Secretary

JOHNSON O'MALLEY

Thomas, Virginia	608	Manager
Wind, Martha	627	Field Spec.

JUDICIAL BRANCH — Ext. 310

Jukich, Nancy	Court Clerk
Burgess, James	Baliff/Prob Officer
Stafford, Robin	Deputy Court Clk.
Thornbrugh, Jody	Deputy Court Clk.
Vardell, Candace	Deputy Court Clk.

LIGHTHORSE ADMINSTRATION — EXT. 382

Scott, Marsey	378	Chief
Berryhill, Prentiss	382	Assistant Chief
Dewhirst, Sheryl	448	Secretary
Fife, Jeff	386	Investigator
Kelough, Eldon	446	Supervisor
Heard, Deana	444	Dispatcher
Ballard, Heather	444	Dispatcher
Jennings, Carrie	444	Dispatcher
Pack, Sandra	444	Dispatcher
Riley, Trillia	444	Dispatcher
White, Crystal	444	Dispatcher
Berryhill, Alfred		Barrett, Daniel
Barnett, Calvin		Mosquito, Joseph
Bohannan, Andrew		Skaggs, Jon.
Bruner, Jasper		Bunny, Gaines
Checotah, Daniel		Chisholm, Frank
Cummings, Washington		Dagenet, Robert
Daniel, Norman		Doyle, Sonnie
Davis, Chris		Squire, Laureen
Fisher, Vince		Fixico, Richard
Fixico, Robert		Fry, Emmitt
Harjo, Leroy		Wittman, Jerry
Hill, Levi		Hill, Sunday
Holt, James		Harjo, Marlon
Jackson, Keith		Wilson, Thomas
Joslin, Kenneth		Killingsworth, A.
Nixon, Jimmy		Pickering, Beth
Powell, Jerry		Proctor, James
Ramirez, Lonnie		Randall, Monte
Remis, Sam		Richerson, John.
Starkey, Ryan		Voyles, Justin
Watashe, Ben		Watashe, Roman

MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SERVICES

Raper, Ron	249	Manager
Proctor, Della	253	System Admin
Tecumseh, Louise	243	Data Entry Clerk
West, Barbara	243	Comm. Analyst

NAHASDA

Brown, Juanita	752-3267	Sec. III
Downs, Linda	752-3256	Sec. III
Frye, Freda	752-3262	Sec. III
Moore, Glenn	752-3210	Env. Spec.
Morgan, Emanuel	752-3207	Hous. Plan.
Soweka, Larry	752-3262	Grant Spec.

NATIONAL COUNCIL — EXT. 346
(918) 758-1410

Gouge, Wilbur	Speaker
Hufft, Robert	Second Speaker
Burgess, Ruthie	Admin. Secretary
Deere, Lesah	Leg. Res. Spec.
Dutchy, Terry	Legislative Clerk
Edwards, Jennifer	Legislative Clerk
Harjo, Kristie	Legislative Clerk
Josie, Courtney	Secretary/Recpt.
Revis, Annella	Office Assistant

NATURAL RESOURCES
(918) 657-2600

McIntosh, Stacy	Manager
Barnoski, Barnett	Laborer
Jacobs, Paul	Laborer
Josie, John	Laborer
Satterfield, Robert	Laborer

OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL — EXT. 301

Work, Susan	Atty. General
Dellinger, Kevin	Asst. Atty. General
Dry, Doug	Asst. Atty. General
Fields, Marc	Crim. Investigator
Harjochee, Debra	Legal Assistant
Huelster, Paula	Legal Secretary
Nies, Rachel	Fmly Thrpst
Prescott, Shannon	Asst. Atty. General

OFFICE OF PRINCIPAL CHIEF

Beaver, Robert	200	Principal Chief
Ellis, A. D.	203	Second Chief
Bell, Kathryn	202	Chief asst./S.G.
Napier, Malissa	204	Executive Sec.
Taylor, Melinda	201	Secretary

OFFICE OF PUBLIC GAMING

Wilson, Enus	235	Acting Comm.
Hill, Ronald	256	Asst. Comm.
Cantrell, Carla	396	Comp. Invest.
Colbert, Queenie	302	Regulatory Audit.
Combs, Doreen		Gaming Monitor
Crofford, Charles		Gaming Monitor
Estes, Don		Gaming Monitor
Gray, Michael		Gaming Monitor
Jacobs, Russell	231	Regulatory Audit.
Jones, Roxanne	231	Regulatory Audit.
Kuykendall, Lisa		Gaming Monitor
Manus, Greta	256	Financial Auditor
Pearcy, Jody		Gaming Monitor
Pittman, William		Gaming Monitor
Stroble, Alicia	453	Admin. Assistant
Varner, Candace	231	Regulatory Audit.

PAYROLL

Lowe, Regina	246	Supervisor
Ambler, Melissa	238	Payroll Clerk

PERSONNEL

Anderson, Perry	255	Manager
Crosley, Alexis	365	Staffing Coord.
Hite, Judy	254	Benefits Coord.
Smith, Jill	233	Secretary
Waggnor, Melany	390	Personnel Spec.

PURCHASING

Smith, Jason	240	Purchasing Agt.

REALTY

Yahola, Thomas	272	Manager
Jack, Lanisa	277	Office Clerk
Lowe, Wilbert	281	Land Anal. Coord.
Lytch, Sonya	278	Realty Assistant
O'Dell, Jeffrey	286	Realty Specialist
Slinker, Grace	273	Realty Assistant
Smith, Lou Ann	274	Title Plant Supv.
Watashe, Vicky	265	Office Clerk

ROAD CONSTRUCTION

Arrington, Bob	348	Supervisor
Basquez, Jimmy	436	Equip. Oper.
Griggs, Richard	436	Equip. Oper.
Long, Thomasine	397	Office Clerk III
Moppin, Leo	436	Equip. Oper.

SOCIAL SERVICES

Hanun, Janice	280	Manager
Noon-Tomah, Tillie	285	Supervisor
Anderson, Augusta	292	Caseworker
Brown, Amelia	279	Secretary
Dearmon, Crystal	291	Records Tech.
Ziriax, Julie	290	Caseworker

TAX COMMISSION
(918) 756-6374

Johnson, Dana	Commissioner
Barnett, Steven	Tax Clerk
Francis, Hannah	Revenue Agent
Lowe, Linda	Sr. Revenue Agt.
Mosquito, Craig	Warehse. Coord.

TRAVEL PLAZA
(918) 752-0090

Foster, Roger	Site Manager
Pope, Vivian	Asst. Manager
Bear, Janice	Cashier
Bear, Kenneth	Maintenance
Blossom, Stephanie	Cashier Supv.
Bunner, Yoneva	Cashier
Campbell, Brenda	Cashier
Chalakee, Christopher	Cashier
Chamberlain, Pamela	Merch. Clerk
Culley, Pamela	Inv. Acct. Clerk
Davis, Amber	Cashier
Dunzy, David	Cashier
Frazier, Jamie	Cashier
Harjo, Stanley	Cashier
Johnson, Edward	Maintenance
Jones, Angelia	Inv. Acct. Clerk
Kelly, Rose	Cook
Leybas, Anita	Cashier
McNac, Marla	Cashier Supv.
Nelson, Sheila	Cashier
Reich, John	Cashier
Tarpalechee, Eddy	Maintenance
Taryole, Valerie	Cashier Supv.
Tiger, Gina	Cashier Supv.
Vincent, Jesse	Cashier Supv.

TRIBAL AFFAIRS

Hicks, Curtis	270	Deputy Director
Beasley, Diana	232	Secretary

TRIBAL ROADS SERVICES
(918) 756-8425

Chaney, Jack	303	Roads Engineer
Andrews, Michelle	403	Secretary
Felix, Timothy		Equip. Operator
Gilroy, Harvey		Site Foreman
Harjo, James		Laborer
Henke, Thomas		Equip. Operator
Morgan, Johnny		Laborer
Partain, Dennis		Equip. Operator
Slinker, Charles		Laborer

NUMBERS

BIA	756-3950
CHR OFFICE	756-1941
CN TULSA BINGO	299-8518
CN OKMULGEE BINGO	756-8400
CN MUSKOGEE BINGO	683-1825
CREEK NATION EYE CLINIC	623-1688
CREEK NATION HOSPITAL	623-1424
EATING CENTER	Ext. 601
ELDERLY NUTRITION	758-2727
GAMING OFFICE — TULSA	299-8434
GIFT SHOP	756-5350
HEALTH ADMINISTRATION	756-4333
HOUSING AUTHORITY	756-8504
INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE	756-8571
McCULLOUGH BUILDING	752-3223
OKMULGEE CHILD's. CLINIC	758-2707
OKMULGEE SMOKESHOP	756-5627
OKMULGEE HEALTH CLINIC	758-2717
OKMULGEE DENTAL CLINIC	758-2700

FAX NUMBERS

ATTORNEY GENERAL	756-4814
BIA	756-9626
CHILD CARE	758-1498
CHILD CARE — OKEMAH	623-0969
CHILDREN & FAMILY	756-2882
CITIZENSHIP BOARD	756-8530
COMMUNICATIONS	758-0824
CREEK NATION HOSPITAL	623-9016
ELDERLY NUTRITION	758-2749
EUFAULA DORMITORY	689-2438
FINANCE	756-2892
FOOD DISTRIBUTION	758-0849
GAMING COMMISSION	756-9328
GSA	758-1468
HEAD START	758-1450
HOUSING AUTHORITY	756-9548
HUMAN DEVELOPMENT	758-1459
JOM	758-1499
JTPA	758-0741
JUDICIAL	758-1413
LIGHTHORSE	756-4241
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION	756-2911
NAHASDA	752-4162
NATURAL RESOURCES	657-2680
PERSONNEL	756-2284
REALTY OFFICE	758-0745
SOCIAL SERVICE	756-0286
TAX COMMISSION	758-1475

"Solidarity 2001" Conference

Bacone hosts Solidarity 2001 Conference

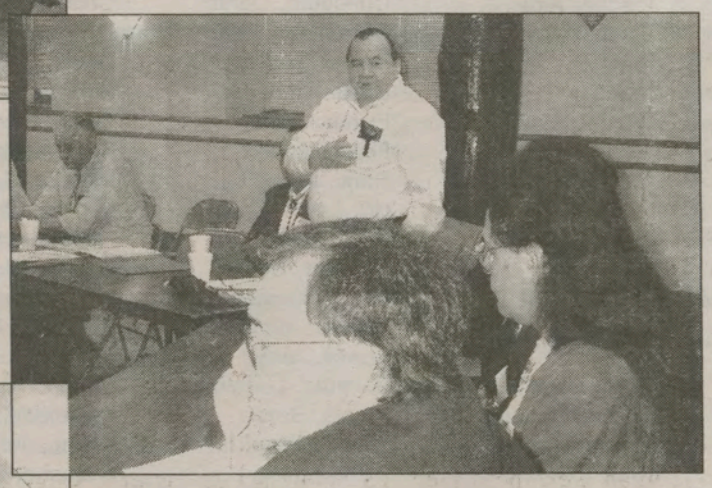
Above: Harley Little, Muskogee District National Council representative, and Allen Harjo

• Top left: Rosalie Batsman, Thloplopcco Tribal Town Treasurer, and Grace Bunner, Thlopthlocco Tribal Town Mekko

• Middle: Keller George, president of the United Southeast Tribes and Oneida Nation member addresses other tribal leaders
Pictured in the foreground are, left to right: Dee Ketchum, Delaware Tribal Chief, and Dennis Zotigh, Oklahoma Indian Affairs Commission program planner.
Pictured in the background are, left to right: Charles Enyary, Eastern Shawnee Tribal chief, and Nelson Johnson, Miami Tribal President and CEO (view obstructed).

• Bottom left: Cherokee Nation Principal Chief Chad Smith; Muscogee Nation Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver; and Chickasaw Nation Gov. Bill Anoatubby.

photos by Gerald Wofford



Muscogee Nation hosts "Solidarity 2001"

Conference recognizes need for organization among Oklahoma tribes

MUSKOGEE — Bacone College was the site of "Solidarity 2001: A forum for Sovereign Indian Nations," a multi-tribal conference that included 15 northeastern Oklahoma tribes and a representative from a New York based tribal organization.

The conference, held Dec. 7 and 8, was the first of its kind for the Oklahoma-based tribes and was hosted by Muscogee (Creek) Nation with Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver acting as the moderator for the event.

The conference was conducted in a round-table fashion of discussions with an established agenda of designated speakers for the topic pertinent to the various tribes and their respective members. The discussions evolved around the exchange of ideas and the spreading of awareness of issues to the other tribes from various standpoints.

The subject matter addressed on the first day included: tribal sovereignty, relations between the State of Oklahoma and the tribes; health issues and related needs for funding, economic development, cultural preservations and housing issues. The second day of issues were wrapped up with the discussions of water rights and environmental issues and a look into the Internal Revenue Services as they affect the tribes, followed by a strategy discussion.

In closing, the leaders agreed as to the need for the various tribes to become organized as a unit to help better serve each tribe's individual needs.

"What we've accomplished here is the recognition of the need for organization among the tribes," said Beaver, after the close of the conference. "Each tribe is unique, [but] we need to organize all of the tribes in Oklahoma to speak with one voice on issues that affect all tribes in Oklahoma.

"The message we want to send is that Indian tribes are viable nations and governments. We are sovereign nations and government. We, as nations, know what's best for us. We don't want some outsider telling us what we need because we [already] know. We want to be able to consult with the federal government about issues that are going to affect our people."

Southwestern Indian tribes were also invited to attend the conference, but were regrettably unable because of "conflicts with traditional ceremonies scheduled during December" according to a letter from Kelsey A. Begaye, president of the Navajo Nation.

CLINTON BENSON

MORRIS—Funeral services for Clinton Dale Benson were held Dec. 19 at the Church of Christ with Kelly Brown officiating.

He was born on Sept. 24, 1961 to Phillip and Shirley Benson in Tulsa. He died Dec. 16 at his home in Morris.

He was a resident of Okmulgee most of his life. After graduating from Morris High School he worked at John Zink in Tulsa and Creek Nation Okmulgee Bingo. He was currently employed by Cindee's Janitorial Services.

Benson was preceded in death by: an infant sister, Kaleen Benson; maternal grandparents, Sumner and Edith Taylor; and paternal grandfather, Edward Benson.

He is survived by: his parents, Phillip and Shirley Benson of Okmulgee; one brother, Kevan Benson of Tulsa; one sister, Beverly Kiehl of Morris; grandmother, Stella Benson of Okmulgee; and many other relatives and friends.

Casket bearers were: Mike Creason; Mark Ledbetter, Tim DeArmon; Kip Johnson; Stan Sowder; and Randy Edmonds.

Interment was in Okmulgee Cemetery.

CHARLES FREEMAN

BRISTOW—Funeral services for Charles Franklin "Frank" Freeman were held Dec. 18 Schumacher Funeral Home.

He was born on May 1, 1912 in Bristow to William Thomas and Blanche Self Freeman. He died on Dec. 12 in Juneau, Alaska.

He had served in the Army as a staff sergeant in the Philippines Campaign during World War II.

Freeman was active in civic and religious endeavors. He served on the boards of the Allen-Bowden School District, the rural water district and the First Church of the Nazarene in Sapulpa. He had retired from Wickham Packing Company in Sapulpa. He had lived in Creek County for 85 years before moving to Alaska to be near family members.

He was preceded in death by three brothers and two sisters.

He is survived by: his wife, Eathel Fern of Juneau; one son, Frank Freeman of Juneau; three grandchildren, Heidi, Seth, and Matthew, all of Juneau; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Interment was in Sunrise Cemetery in Kellyville.

EDNA HARJO

OKMULGEE—Funeral services for Edna Mae Berryhill Harjo were held Nov. 22 at Okmulgee Indian Baptist Church with Revs. Robert Washington, Leon Postoak, and Harley Barnoski officiating.

She was born March 30, 1922 in Okmulgee. She died Nov. 18 in Edmond.

She is survived by: children, Leona Marshall of Guthrie, Johnnie McDaniel of Morris, Chibon Marks of Oklahoma City, Rocky Marks of Shawnee, and Raymond Marks of Guthrie; a sister, Billie Marie Soontay of Dallas, Texas; and one brother, Ernest Dean Berryhill of Guthrie.

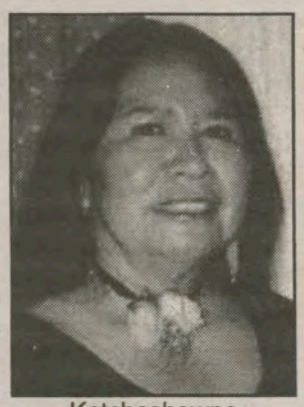
Pallbearers were: Jimmy Dale; Geno Berryhill; Pete McDaniel; Marcus Marshall; J.R. Marshall; and Charles Gray. Honorary pallbearers were Dean McDaniel and Pat Gray.

Interment was in Okmulgee Indian Baptist Church Cemetery.

MILLIE KETCHESHAWNO

EUFAULA—Funeral services for Millie Ketcheshawno were held Dec. 15 at Missionary Baptist Church with Revs. Ledtkey McIntosh and Allison Phillips officiating.

Wake services were held Dec. 14 at Gregg Funeral Home Chapel.


Ketcheshawno

She was born on Feb. 9, 1937 in Shell Creek Community—west of Eufaula—to Daniel and Amanda Hill Phillips. She died on Dec. 11 at University Hospital in Oklahoma City.

She received her elementary education at Carter Seminary and her secondary education at Haskell Institute in Lawrence, Kan.

She resided in the northern California bay area from the late 50s to the present. In recent years, she become involved in film making and recently produced a documentary film entitled "Alcatraz Is Not An Island." Ketcheshawno was a member of Artussee Baptist Church in Eufaula.

She was preceded in death by: her parents; husband, Vernon; brother, Daniel Phillips Jr.; infant brother, Bunny Phillips; and her aunt, Emma Lewis.

She is survived by: her sons, Gino Barichello of Albany, Calif., Jeff Ketcheshawno of Los Angeles, Calif., and Jay Ketcheshawno of Zuni, N.M.; daughter, Leslie Deer of Holdenville; grandsons, Caleb Deer and Aaron and Chris Leader; great-grandson, Drew Wagon; two brothers, Birdcreek Phillips of Stidham, and Franklin Phillips of Pittsburg, Kan.; nieces, Mona Bedford, Susie Deere, Jena Loma, Amanda Middleton, Debbie Deer, Becky Jones, Alayne Phillips, Georgeann Phillips, Tina Guerra and Victoria Silva; nephews, James Phillips, Ben Phillips, Joe Phillips, Paul Phillips, Jason Phillips, and Cedric and Tyrone Ketcheshawno.

Interment was at Greenwood Cemetery.

BEN MURRAY

DURANT—Funeral services for Ben Edward Murray were held Nov. 20 at the First Baptist Church with Revs. James Robinson and Carroll Hooper officiating.

He was born Aug. 31, 1914, in Checotah, to John and Lucy McCalvey Murray. He died Nov. 22 in Durant.

Murray was one of thirteen children. He married Elizabeth Marie Jones on July 9, 1934 in Eufaula. Upon moving to Durant in 1948, he and his wife founded Murray Funeral Home and operated it until 1968. In recent years, he returned to Murray Funeral Home to assist part-time.

He served on the Murray State College Board of Regents and was a member of the First Baptist Church, Durant, where he served as a deacon. He was a 33rd Degree Mason and served as: past master of the Durant Masonic Lodge; past president of the 39th Masonic District; past president of the Scottish Rite Society; past master of the Rose Croix Chapter of the McAlester Consistory. He was also a member of the Rose Croix Funeral Team. He held the Demolay Cross of Honor and instituted the first Demolay Cross of Honor and was makeup man for the Scottish Rite Degree Teams. He was also a member of: the Guthrie Masonic Nursing Home Committee; Durant Lions Club; Odd Fellows Lodge, Claremore; and Durant's Lodge #57.

He enjoyed being an amateur radio operator and was a coordinator for Oklahoma in the Southern Baptist Emergency Net, a program often used to assist in natural disasters worldwide.

He was preceded in death by: his wife on Feb. 2, 2000; parents; sons Richard Dale, in 1946, and Ben Ronald, in 1994; granddaughter, Angela Richelle, in 1980, and 11 brothers and sisters.

Survivors include: granddaughter, Debbie Murray of Depew of Georgetown, Texas; grandson Doug Murray of Castle Rock, Colo.; great-granddaughters, Angela Carisse, Kristen Richelle Depew, and Allison Marie Murray; sister, Billy Freeman, Yates Center, Kan.; and numerous nieces and nephews and friends.

Pallbearers were: Sterling Campbell; Henry Gold; Aubrey Griffith; Johnny Corbin; Leon Sherrer and Joe Barrett.

Interment was in Green's Cemetery in Checotah

WILLIS ROBISON

LAKEPORT, Calif.—Funeral services for Willis Holmes Robison were held Nov. 22 at Chapel of the Lakes with Rev. Richard Robert officiating.

He was born Feb. 26, 1919, in Weleetka, to Joe and Zelma Jane Robison. He died at his home on Nov. 17.

He had lived in Weleetka until 1940 when his family moved to California. Robison worked in construction until acquiring a civil service job. After retiring in 1976, he moved to Upper Lake, Calif. He enjoyed gardening and telling stories.

He is survived by: his wife, Louise; daughters, Lee Ann Cox of Nice, Calif., Velma Jane Robison of Upper Lake, Shirley Mae Zuchs of Murphy, Idaho; sisters, Artie Langston of Anchorage, Alaska, Zelma Quigley of Chresent City, Calif., and Bernice Kirkland of Anchorage; brothers, Robbie Robison of Adrian, Calif. Ore. and Raydean Robison of Anchorage.

Interment was in Lakewood Memorial Park in Hughson, Calif.

Religion

Training center offers Biblical studies classes

HECTORVILLE—Two Rivers Native American Training Center, a learning center with the American Bible College, is offering 24 credit hours in Biblical studies for students who want to develop a foundation for Christian service to Native American people.

American Bible College is an accredited degree granting private educational institution and is accredited by the Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools. Classes will begin Jan. 22.

For more information, contact: Two Rivers Native American Training Center, P.O. Box 97, Bixby, OK 74008; call (918) 366-6735; or e-mail 2rivers@webzone.net.

Interior

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the equation.

While these comments may not bode well for tribal governments, Norton is not completely lacking when it comes to working with Indian tribes.

There are two federally recognized tribes in Colorado - the Ute Mountain Ute and Southern Ute. Norton has vast experience dealing with both tribes, especially over the issue of water rights.

Members of these tribes still haul water to their homes nearly 100 years after planning began on a dam to capture spring runoff on the Animas River. Dam planners said in 1905 that the project would be completed quickly, but since then the Animas-LaPlata proposal has languished in political limbo in the U.S. Congress. Anti-dam activists labeled the project a waste of money, while proponents praised it as a solution for the water problems of the Utes and other communities of the arid southwestern region of Colorado.

Norton made it clear she supports the project and that she believes Congress is hurting the proposal by interfering with an agreement reached between the state, the tribes, and the Department of Interior. While some ground has been gained in convincing Congress to approve the project, some obstacles remain.

Called a "right wing extremist" by Defenders of Wildlife, Norton worked for former Secretary of Interior James Watt who criticized environmental laws, advocated logging and promoted mineral exploration on federal lands.

"She has stated she is not James Watt in a skirt," said Lori Goodman, board member of Diné Citizens Against Ruining Our Environment, a grass-roots group whose Navajo cofounder Leroy Jackson was found dead in 1993 after successfully halting clear-cut logging of the Navajos Chuska Mountains.

"The world is watching, and we want to believe that Norton does care for the environment over needless resource exploitation."

She went on to say, "Ms. Norton harshly criticized Clinton for not communicating with the people directly impacted. We hope she extends these sentiments when the Bush administration gears up to open the Arctic wildlife (refuge) for oil development."

If confirmed, Norton would oversee the BIA, Bureau of Reclamation, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife and National Park Service.

Rebecca Wodder, president of American Rivers, said confirmation will signal a battle for the future of wildlife, rivers and lands.

"On her watch we will decide whether to invade the pristine Arctic National Wildlife Refuge for the sake of a few months' worth of oil. ... She has argued for giving far more leeway to corporations and state and local governments in deciding whether or not to follow our nation's basic environmental laws."

However, Jerry Taylor, natural resource director for the libertarian Cato Institute, promoting the privatization of public lands was among those celebrating Norton's nomination.

"Happy days are here again."

Norton, while serving two terms as Colorado's attorney general, 1990 and 1994, opposed tougher anti-emissions standards. She also favored a change in federal law that would allow polluters to avoid legal trouble if they turned themselves in and cleaned up dumps.

The 46-year-old attorney born in Wichita, Kan., promoted a tough stance on crime, working to shorten death-penalty appeals, but supported abortion rights while Colorado's attorney general. She lost a bid for a Republican Senate seat in 1996 and returned to private legal practice in 1999.

Rodger Schlickeisen, president of Defenders of Wildlife, said conservationists "will hope for the best, but prepare for the worst.

"It is also not encouraging that in her first appearance as the Interior secretary designee, Norton chose to emphasize her desire to drill in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge."

Thomas Kiernan, president of the National Parks Conservation Association, expressed similar alarm. "Her history includes assignment as a fellow with the Political Economy Research Center think tank, which has taken disturbing environmental positions such as outlining methods for selling off national parks."

On the other hand, developers celebrated Norton's appointment., including the National Association of Home Builders, which hopes Norton will continue her pattern of diminishing the effects of environmental laws, which she began as Colorado's attorney general.

"We look forward to working with Interior Secretary-designate Norton on fine-tuning the implementation of the Endangered Species Act so that it properly protects species without unnecessarily disrupting economic growth," said Robert Mitchell, a home builder from Rockville, Md., and president of the 203,000-member organization.

Environmentalists, however, say "fine-tuning" is just another term for deflating federal environmental laws designed to protect the caribou, polar bear, grizzly bear, gray wolf and Dall sheep in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, now targeted by President-elect Bush.

Schlickeisen said the Norton pick is a move to the far right and reflects the extremist views that led to the removal of Watt.

"Based upon her credentials, it is difficult not to conclude that her selection reflects not a desire by President-elect Bush to govern as a moderate on environmental issues, but rather his intention to find common ground with the anti-environmental, far right wing of his party."

Norton was a major player in the National Tobacco Settlement and even testified before the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on the settlement's impacts on Indian tribes. As part of the settlement, she called for elimination of tobacco marketing to youth and compensation to the states, the tribes and individuals injured by the past practices of the industry.

She advocated for the inclusion of tribal governments within the settlement at all levels, with direct funding for regulation and enforcement commensurate with the states.

While Norton has shown herself to be an ally of Indian country, the most controversial issue in her appointment - the opening of ANWR to oil and gas exploration - placed her at early odds with one tribe and possibly the nation's largest Indian organization, the National Congress of American Indians.

The Gwich'in Indians of northeastern Alaska and NCAI have opposed opening ANWR to oil and gas exploration for years, citing the impact on the traditional lifeways of the Gwich'in. The Gwich'in have relied on the porcupine caribou herd, whose calving grounds include ANWR, for subsistence and cultural survival for generations. The Gwich'in say they fear for the future of their children and grandchildren.

"It is our belief that the future of the Gwich'in and the future of the caribou are the same," said Jonathan Solomon of the village of Fort Yukon. "We cannot stand by and let them sell our children's heritage to the oil companies. Embodied in the Gwich'in way of life is a land ethic and a lesson for us all."

NCAI and some individual tribes passed a number of resolutions supporting the Gwich'in and the protection of caribou calving grounds within ANWR, while the Alaska Congressional delegation, along with President-elect Bush, have been calling for opening ANWR to oil and gas exploration because of the nation's current energy shortage.

"President-elect Bush took a position as part of his campaign that, because of the need to balance environmental protection and also our need to utilize the resources of the public lands, we should explore opening the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge for oil and gas exploration," Norton said. "The belief is that there are large amounts of oil available in that area."

The Clinton administration has long opposed the idea and at times has been the only thing standing in the way of opening ANWR. Now that Bush will take over, it may only be a matter of time before ANWR is opened.

And with Norton set to begin work with a tone opposing tribal interests, will tribal governments find themselves clamoring to be heard amid the voices of private citizens, corporations, and state and local governments? Such questions will inevitably be answered in the next four years. Norton's nomination must still be approved by the Senate.

Renee Still Day, American Indian activist living in Pueblo, Colo., said the outcome of the close presidential race, culminating with the confirmation of Bush as president-elect and the Norton pick, were foreshadowed.

"The Greens should be hanging their heads in shame. This is what they were warned would happen and they will now have to live their worst nightmare."

New

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tion into the presidency and the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives are preparing leadership positions and committee and subcommittee seats.

Along with this preparation on Capitol Hill is an assessment by tribal governments of how this new picture in Washington will be handled and who will be the new players in the 107th Congress.

"We must remain calm, stay focused, and be politically savvy in our approach in dealing with the new administration and the next Congress," said Susan Masten, president of the National Congress of American Indians and chairwoman of the Yurok Tribe in California.

"With all the recent political divisiveness that has been created in Washington, D.C., it is essential that we develop a united, coordinated strategy in dealing with both the administration and Congress."

After important victories at the polls for Indian country in November elections, including defeat of Republican Sen. Slade Gorton in Washington state and election of Democrat Brad Carson, a Cherokee Nation tribal member, to a U.S. Congressional seat in Oklahoma, a new political playing field has emerged. The Senate is split 50-50 between Democrats and Republicans and Republican control of the House has been weakened, giving the long-outnumbered Democrats a foothold for pushing their agenda in the upcoming session.

Important assignments in committee and subcommittee seats and leadership positions are expected to change what many tribes have come to know as the norm since the Republican takeover of Congress following the 1994 elections. With some prominent Republicans leaving after defeat or retirement, key committee seats dealing with Indian

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New

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affairs and tribal issues will be occupied by new policy makers, some familiar and some not so familiar to Indian country.

In the House of Representatives, Don Young, R-Alaska, will be replaced as chairman of the all important Committee on Resources by Rep. James Hanson, R-Utah. Elected in 1980, Hanson was former chairman of the Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Lands. His record on Indian issues is mixed, being an outspoken advocate for public access to federal lands and opposed to tribal efforts to restrict that use for cultural or religious reasons.

Rep. Joe Skeen, R-N.M., will succeed Rep. Ralph Regula, R-Pa., as chairman of the Interior Appropriations Subcommittee. Elected in 1974, Skeen's congressional district includes both Laguna Pueblo and the Mescalero Apache. He was a soil and water engineer for Zuni Pueblo and the Ramah Navajo in the 1950s. Skeen is said to also be close to Sen. Pete Domenici, R-N.M., considered by some a friend to Indian country.

Congressman-elect Carson has yet to be assigned to any committee. However, as a newly elected member of the House and a freshman he will unlikely hold any leadership position.

In the Senate, Sen. Ben Nighthorse Campbell, R-Colo., is expected to retain his seat as chairman of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs.

With the defeat of Gorton, Sen. Conrad Burns, R-Mont., is expected to take over as chairman of the Subcommittee on Interior Appropriations. Elected in 1988, Burns has been a longtime friend to many in Indian country and especially close to tribes in Montana. Many see the departure of Gorton from this important subcommittee as a major step forward for tribes in receiving appropriations free of riders long perceived as anti-Indian.

"Tribal governments have found themselves in a defensive posture in past Congresses with Sen. Gorton leading the charge on many anti-Indian initiatives," Masten said. "The defeat of Sen. Gorton is a victory for Indian country. Politicians will engage in greater deliberations before advancing any anti-Indian legislation which singles us out for vicious attacks on our tribal sovereign rights to govern ourselves and our affairs."

Although much has changed in Congress following the elections, tribal leaders like Masten say many of the core issues and players remain the same. They say tribes need to continue to work with both parties to facilitate development of a pro-active legislative agenda that will improve federal policies for Indian nations.

USDA

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Alexander Pires Jr., won a multimillion dollar discrimination settlement for black farmers who had been denied access to government loans and subsidies.

At the time the lawsuit was filed in late October, 715 — 75 from Oklahoma — Indian farmers and ranchers had joined the lawsuit. Lawyer Greg Kirschner, a member of Pires' firm, said that the case awaits a ruling that will likely certify it as a class action lawsuit.

Tribes say American Indians also have been denied USDA loans. And they say non-Indian farmers' loans have been restructured up to five times, while Indian farmers' loans have not been.

Suit

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not treated fairly by the USDA officials in the application process because of Native American ancestry; and

• Indians that made either written or verbal complaints to the USDA or tribal officials about the discrimination.

For more information, call lawyers Greg Kirschner or Kimberly Chase at (202) 331-0750.

Millie

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land in the San Francisco Bay. The militant band, which numbered in the hundreds, were there to demonstrate and protest against the U.S. government. They had grown tired of broken treaties and federal involvement in tribal matters. It marked what would later be called, a true 'pan-Indian' movement in modern times and gave momentum to the revival of Native American activism. The Alcatraz takeover lasted two years and drew world wide attention. In 1971 President Richard Nixon signed into law the Indian Self-determination Act, which would allow American Indians to govern themselves and their affairs by selecting their own chiefs and leaders. Many historians feel the occupation at Alcatraz Island influenced the ushering in of this historic law.

Millie's participation in local native activism continued when her second husband, Vernon Ketcheshawno, who helped initiate the Annual Unthanksgiving Sunrise Gathering on Alcatraz a few years after the occupation ended.

Prior to Vernon's death in 1986, he and Millie lived in Los Angeles where she became interested in Native American theatre and filmmaking. After Vernon passed away, she continued to participate in many facets of the native community in both California and Oklahoma. At the urging of her children, she enrolled at the University of California, Berkeley, where she pursued a double major in film and Native American studies and in 1995 was named National Indian Education Association Student of the Year.

Millie also worked with Peter Bratt on his Sundance Film Festival award winning film "Follow Me Home."

In 1991 she became one of the founders of the Berkeley Resistance 500 Task Force, endorsed by the city council. This group educated the community on the atrocities committed by Christopher Columbus and helped to stop the Quincentennial Jubilee plan to sail replicas of Columbus' armada into San Francisco Bay. In 1992 the committee brought about the end of the Columbus Day celebration in Berkeley, replacing it with "Indigenous Peoples Day." The next year Millie helped organize the first Berkeley Indigenous Peoples Day Pow Wow. Millie was coordinator of the Indigenous Peoples Day Committee from 1995 to 1999, helping to make this annual pow wow one of the most popular in the Bay Area.

In 1995 Millie began work on an ambitious project as associate producer/consultant of the Golden Gate National Parks Association's exhibit video "We Hold the Rock," commemorating the occupation of Alcatraz Island. Today, millions of visitors pass through the permanent Alcatraz occupation exhibit every year to see and hear firsthand accounts of the occupation and the "Red Power" Indian activism it inspired. She also produced the Alcatraz Occupation 30th Anniversary Celebration held on the island in October of 1999. Millie continued to work with her film partners and became executive producer of the two hour documentary feature "Alcatraz Is Not An Island," which received the Best Documentary Feature award at the 1999 American Indian Film Festival.

Millie worked tirelessly up until her untimely passing to secure completion funding for the documentary and to prepare for a screening at the Sundance Film Festival in January of 2001.

"Millie's passing in December 2000 is felt by many, many people from California to Oklahoma," said Fortier.

"Her spirit, dedication, friendship, and sense of humor will be missed by all. The work and accomplishments she has made in the struggle for all native peoples will never be forgotten."

Editor's note: Jim Fortier is the director of "Alcatraz Is Not An Island." He contributed significantly to this article.

Millie Ketcheshawno Memorial Fund

A fund has been set up by the family for contributions.

Checks may be made payable to "Memorial Fund for Millie Ketcheshawno."

Deposits may be made directly to account #0028 680 28523 at Bank of America.

Inquiries should be directed to Tiffany Newman (405) 230-3560.

Alabama Quassarte

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ting them to remove records and equipment from the tribal town's Henryetta office and relocate to a new office in Wetumka.

Torres' administration member Irwin Rock told OKIT that the BIA findings were invalid because it is not the roll of the BIA to determine who is eligible for enrollment.

However, Alexander stated that, "the assistance we asked for was to determine whether or not these people met the criteria established in our constitution, not to determine that criteria for us. Technical assistance is well within the framework of the BIA."

Rock told OKIT that he believes that the members whose names had been added were descendents of the original tribal enrollees.

None of the people employed within the tribal office are members, according to the list issued by the BIA, though a portion of the governing committee is on that list.

This worries members of the AQTT, who feel this has impaired their ability to remain active with the tribe, to attend meetings comfortably, and to access services. While Rock told OKIT that services such as child care are in place through their office, one mother told OKIT that she has been unable to access child care money through the tribe.

Though neither Torres or Holloway were on the list of eligible members, a letter, dated Feb. 26, 1999, from James Fields, BIA Acting Area Director, stated that the BIA would continue to recognize the officers recognized after the 1997 election and overturned the governing committees acceptance of Torres' resignation.

Alexander said, "it was very disturbing that the BIA took it upon itself to overturn, rather than interpret, our constitution." Despite a verbal resignation and acceptance of that resignation signed by eight members of the governing committee, Torres was again recognized as chief of the Alabama Quassarte.

On Oct. 26, 1998, that position was recanted in a letter

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Letters

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out because of being threatened by their jobs. When they do report illegal activities they are retaliated against by our own commissioners and administration staff. The First Amendment of the Constitution gives you the right to freedom of speech. This is why we have elections. Where are the representatives that citizens voted in that are supposed to represent citizens in matters like this? Where are our leaders? Who has control to take care of matters with the housing authority? Employees of the housing authority are being falsely accused of crimes without substantial proof of documents. They are either wrongfully terminated or resigning from their positions for speaking out against the illegal activities being done within the housing authority.

The term "employment at will" means: I can discriminate, harass, and sexually discriminate against you and there is not a thing you can do about it, because if they don't like you, they can terminate your employment without reason or cause. Good honest people are losing their jobs because of "employment at will" and they're not getting any help! Now is the time to bring housing back under the tribe and reorganize.

We need management staff that can give honest, direct answers and can take care of the problems when it's reported to them, not a management staff that is incompetent. Nepotism is what we see a lot of in the housing authority. The previous executive director of housing turned his back on those who questioned his judgement and the expenditure of monies. Why didn't he respond in an appropriate manner and timely fashion with reports and pictures of acquired assets obtained by housing? Could it be that these reports would be in forms of out-of-state trips taken by his elite staff that he chose to surround himself by? Why did the board of commissioners and administrative staff never address grievances by employees? Who are they protecting? It sure isn't the Muscogee citizen who actually needs help or the employees who are actually doing their jobs.

Citizens of the Muscogee Nation, it is at this time that we need to stand together as one. Stand together and make the appropriate changes to get things done for our tribal members. Let's put an end to this chaos. Mvto.

Joseph T. Rogers, Tulsa

Citizen calls editor on omission of content

Editor:

The following definitions were omitted from an editorial that was previously published as a letter to the editor in The Muscogee Nation News.

The definitions were a part of my previous editorial and were a necessary part for those to understand their meaning.

Webster's New World Dictionary defines malfeasance as "... wrongdoing or misconduct, esp., by a public official; commission of an act that is positively unlawful: distinguished from misfeasance."

Misfeasance is defined as : "..., the doing of a lawful act in an unlawful or improper manner: distinguished from malfeasance, nonfeasance."

Nonfeasance is defined as a "... failure to do what duty requires to be done: distinguished from malfeasance, misfeasance."

Again, all the above may be construed as an abuse of governmental authority. If there is any question whether or not the Muscogee Nation has laws covering such improprieties, I suggest citizens contact the attorney general of the Muscogee Nation or National Council representatives to determine if there is an applicable law. If not, the next appropriate step is to see that Council representatives move forward with a bill covering possible improperties.

Richard E. "Rick" Wilde, Tulsa

Editor's note: The entirety of Wilde's letter, originally printed in the October 2000 issue of The Muscogee Nation News, did not run because of space limitations.

Ketcheshawno

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half-jokingly said — 'well, let us show this at our festival.' Millie took me seriously, which I'm glad she did, and offered to not only show it, but personally introduce it and comment about that historic time. In November of 1999 Millie did just that, making the second Muscogee Film Festival a wonderful success.

The legacy of Millie Ketcheshawno will live on, not only through her children, but also through a worldwide event she sought to remember, and did.

Alabama Quassarte

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from Fields, a decision appealed by Torres.

A decision of Nov. 22, 1999, signed by Anita Vogt, administrative judge of the Department of the Interior, Office of Hearings and Appeals cited the AQTT constitutional provision stating, "adopted members may only take office with the consent of the members by a majority vote." While Torres entered office without a majority vote, the decision states that she was removed without due process. It states that the eligible membership list was for the purpose of assessment of ability to meet the criteria for enrollment and should not have been interpreted for the purpose of disenrollment as it was used.

Despite Lewis' June 1998 notification of individuals that were disenrolled, Vogt's decision cites a failure to notify those who had been disenrolled.

Prior to this dispute involving the adoption of 227 individuals, there had been only one adoption, that of Bryant Jessie, into the tribe since 1939.

Though Torres had been denied due process, Augustine Asbury, former governing committee chair, said, "in any event, Torres did not enter the office with support from the majority. In the election of 1993, notices of the election were posted all over in the areas where most of the members live. This time there was nothing. Most people didn't even know an election was taking place."

A letter from Gover's office, written on Feb. 11, 2000, recognized Torres as interim chief for a maximum of one year, allowing time for resolution.

At that time an AQTT office had been opened in Wetumka. Roughly 80 percent of individuals on the tribal membership roll live in the areas which encompass Okmulgee, Okfuskee, and Hughes counties, making Wetumka a central location for the tribal office. After the BIA reversed its earlier decision, again recognizing Torres as chief, the governing committee under Torres moved the tribal office. It was initially moved to the home of Holloway and in the spring of 2000 relocated to Muskogee.

Referencing difficulty in attending meetings because of distance, Alexander sent a letter to Torres asking to be notified in writing of the times and dates of meetings. She also requested that meetings be held at times and locations which would be convenient for out-of-town members with regular work hours. Torres responded in a letter which stated that she had received five similar letters and wrote, "your six letters, which represent less that two percent of total enrollment, will be forwarded to the Governing Committee Chairman for review." Meeting times and a response to Alexander's request was not received. Holloway told OKIT that the meetings are held at regular times each month and that notification of those meetings are placed in newspapers in the communities where most members live, including newspapers in Okmulgee and Henryetta. However, calls to The Okmulgee Daily Times and the Henryetta Daily Freelance revealed that ads to announce the meetings have not appeared in either paper.

In the suit brought by Torres in U.S. District Court, she alleged that by displacing her as chief, assets had been frozen and that she had to open and maintain a tribal office, disregarding the office already established in Wetumka. Burrage's decision instructs the BIA area office to honor the interim agreement recognizing Torres as chief.

Many members of the AQTT are concerned that their tribe is literally being stolen from them and do not understand due process owed to an individual who has admitted in federal court that she is not eligible for membership, a prerequisite for holding office.

"Around 1996 we began to see changes that were troubling. Ultimately, this is not about how it affects us as individuals; it's how it affects the tribe. What this group has done to my people is wrong and I hope other tribes will look deeply into their tribal operations and keep an open eye so this does not happen to them. If we have to meet in someone's back yard to keep our tribe together, we'll do it," Asbury said.

Yargee explained, "I have been a second chief of the ceremonial grounds of the Alabama Quassarte for over 30 years. This is something that is started when one is a boy, it is something that you do all your whole life. But now, the tribe is being turned over to people who have nothing to do with the Alabama. We want to keep the people together, but these people [the Torres administration] have never come to the ceremonial chiefs to discuss any of this. This group of people — none have tried any traditional resolution. This group used the courts first to resolve this. These people have not been adopted by the old ways. I hold the solicitor position and will do what is needed until this is resolved, but my ways are the old, traditional ways. We don't want people turning against one another."

Geoffrey StandingBear, of Pawhuska, Torres' attorney, declined to make a statement to OKIT. He referred OKIT to a statement he had made previously, saying that he stands behind comments made at the time — "Torres is attempting to unify the tribe. Rebecca knows that going to court really doesn't solve the problem of people working together. Rebecca wants to bring people together." Torres is seeking damages.

"The U.S. District Courts' decision to override the BIA's decision to derecognize Rebecca Torres turned around the BIA's effort to correct itself. The BIA was trying to rectify a mistake that had been made under their jurisdiction. The U.S. District Court has ruled against that. The decision of the IBIA [Interior Board of Indian Appeals] suggested mediation in November 1999 and suggested a framework for the mediation, to which we responded favorably in December 1999. The other side has never responded to the proposed mediation," said Pitchlynn, the attorney for the displaced contingent of tribal town leaders.

Discussion of the matter between the two contingents is scheduled for mediation.

The Muscogee Nation News

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Final move by Babbitt upsets trust case plaintiffs

by Brian Stockes
Indian Country Today

WASHINGTON — Actions by the federal government in the ongoing lawsuit over billions of dollars of tribal trust funds are again drawing attention.

In his final days in office, former Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt called for "statistical sampling" of individual Indian trust accounts to solve problems over lost records. Indian plaintiffs in Cobell vs. Babbitt say the sampling violates a judge's order and will waste as much as $70 million.

"This is another desperate effort to distract the courts and Congress from their utter inability to complete a full and accurate accounting, as required by law," said Elouise Cobell, lead plaintiff. "I certainly hope the Bush administration can get control of the Justice Department, obey the law and the federal judge's orders and start to restore some integrity to this disgrace."

Cobell says the sampling plan is destined to fail because most of the critical trust documents have been lost or destroyed by the federal government for more than a century, and the database maintained by Interior is unreliable.

Interior admitted many of the records relating to these funds have been lost over the last 100 years. Although the BIA is not sure if the money is actually missing, no docu-

please see **INTERIOR**..., page 3

Indian farmers and ranchers' lawsuit still awaits classification

WASHINGTON — A 19 billion dollar discrimination suit filed on behalf of American Indian farmers and ranchers still awaits a ruling to classify it as a class action lawsuit.

The law suit seeks damages for the department of agriculture's alleged failure to give American Indian farmers and ranchers an equal opportunity to refinance loans.

According to lead counselor Alexander Pires Jr., Keepseagle vs. Glickman is the result of years of "systematic discrimination"

Correction

The phone number of the law firm handling the lawsuit on behalf of Indian farmers and ranchers was incorrectly published in the January issue of The Muscogee Nation News.

See SUIT..., page 11

See **USDA**..., page 11

Muscogee boys leading Dustin to state

photo by Robin Jenkins

Pictured after the district finals held at Dustin on Feb. 10 is the Dustin Boys Basketball Team, left to right, front row — Billy Harjo; Chris Holuby; Anthony Dunson; B. J. Hill; Nich Selvidge; and John Pigeon; back row — Coach Lance Weeks; Matt Pigeon; Johna Goodman; Chris Purdom; Kenny Robertson; James Fife; Joshua Gray; Randy Summers; and Joshua Smith.

Community rallies around all-Indian team as they win regionals and prepare for state tournament

by Gerald Wofford

DUSTIN — Nothing brings a small community together like a basketball game. The exciting atmosphere and support a team receives seems to bring everyone closer together — especially if the team is undefeated, and on the verge of a state championship.

The Dustin Redskins' Boys Basketball Team is doing just that. After starting the season last November, Coach Lance Weeks has seen his team play a flawless season — 23-0 — beating the likes of Wilson, Schulter, Graham, and Hanna. These teams are not only rivals, but are part of the Crossroads Conference, which Dustin won this year.

The successful season has catapulted Dustin to capture not only the conference title, but a season tournament at Bowlegs as well as the area and regional championships. The team now makes an appearance at the state playoffs in Oklahoma City.

"We like to have fun playing; we've always been that way," said Weeks, who stresses their "fast-break, run and gun" type of game. His team is averaging 85 points a game, a rather high point average for a high school team.

Of the members of Dustin's team, Weeks says 90 percent are Muscogee (Creek), while the remaining 10 percent are "card-carrying" Indians, he laughs.

Weeks has been the boys basketball coach for four years and has seen the team grow, not only in wins, but in confidence as well. Team members include: Billy Harjo; Johna Goodman; B.J. Hill; Kenny Robertson; Chris Holuby; Matt and John Pigeon; Chris Purdom; Randy Summers; Joshua Grey; Anthony Dunson; Joshua Smith; Nich Selvidge; and James Fife.

The boys are now in the "elite eight" of the state tournament and begin play on March 1. If the tournament is like the season they just completed, they will reach the finals of the state tournament on March 3.

"Regardless of what happens from here, this is a great team and I am proud of them," Weeks says.

Letters to the editor

Concerned citizen about health care for elders

Editor:

Where is our health care? We do no have oral health care. The dentist will only pull teeth and will not give dentures.

Young children, who have parents earning over $40,000 a year, get preventive health care. We elders live on a small income; the Muscogee Nation says it respects our heritage and culture, but we are treated as second class citizens. What kind of respect has the Muscogee Nation shown us?

We [elder] need our own Indian health system with our own dentist and health personnel. We need someone who cares about the elder Mvskoke citizens.

Esther Grona, Okmulgee

Editor's note: Esther Grona is the chair of the Mvskoke Elder Council.

Maskoke cultural contributions appreciated

Editor:

The state agency of Oklahoma Department of Corrections celebrated National Indian History Month.

Muscogee tribal citizens Farron and Irene Culley coordinated and sponsored a group of high school students to perform Muscogee (Creek) dancing during the program. Geneva Douglas accompanied the group as a sponsor. Mr. Culley explained how the dances were conducted and the accoutrements used by the dancers. The dancers performed four dances with discussion between each dance. The following students were participants of the dance group: Sagey Hicks; Talia Culley; Rebecca Walters; Christy Proctor; Tommy Johnson; William Cloud; and Michael Tiger. The dancers were invited guests for the full program and lun-

please see **LETTERS...**, page 11

photo submitted by Ree Greenwood

Can you identify these people? This photo, from the family of Noah G. and Carrie Norman Gregory, was taken at the Jackson Barnett home located near Haskell. The only individuals identified are: Jackson Barnett, sitting; Melissa Brown Barnett, to his left; and Jake Roland, [far] right[?]. If you can identify know these people, contact the editor at (918) 756-8700, ext. 312. The photograph was donated to the tribal cultural preservation office by tribal citizen Ree Greenwood of Atchison, Kan.

Second opinion

by Second Chief A.D. Ellis

The months of December and January have been very trying times for many Muscogee citizens. During December and January, the ground was covered with ice and snow for 26 consecutive days, a record. Devastation followed with the national disaster of ice — resulting in hundreds of people without power or heat.

Ellis

Our Muscogee citizens are survivors, as we all know, otherwise we wouldn't be here today. Many lives were claimed through this time. I lost many friends as many of you did. These times are hard, but life must go on even though we sometimes wonder how. I attended several funerals, along with hundreds of other people. I urge each of you to visit your friends and loved ones while they are living so that we may see their smiles and treasure their stories and conversations. We don't know when death may claim any one of us.

During my campaign I always urged and promoted the concept of industrial parks for economic development purposes. In January, after a year and a half of work, the National Council approved the purchase of 31 acres of downtown Okmulgee for that very purpose. After it is developed, maybe we will have a place to attract and accommodate new industry within our Nation.

To my many friends throughout the Nation, including the nutrition centers, I will try to resume my monthly visits to the communities to inform as many as possible about our tribal operations and future endeavors.

In January, I attended the Tribal Towns Center Organization meeting in Okemah. I feel that, since then, we have initiated a few things to help people and I expect much more to happen. Also, I commend the absentee citizens who try to work together to keep informed about our Nation — such as the California Muscogee (Creek) Association and its president, Ken Taylor, Willie Adams, and many more.

I congratulate our tribal court system for being selected to be mentors to new tribal governments who want to copy our tribal courts. Last week the Delaware Tribe of Western Oklahoma was here to learn about our courts — a compliment worthy of our Muscogee people.

On Dec. 13, I attended a the first land use agreement between the City of Columbus, Ga. and Fort Benning. Our cultural preservation staff, Joyce Bear and Tim Thompson, have worked for several years to protect our tribal interest in this area. Many burial and archeological sites remain and this signing protected our interest and the remains of our ancestors who lived in this part of Georgia hundreds of years ago.

A note to the Indian farmers and ranchers: A class action lawsuit is being prepared in Washington against the United States Department of Agriculture. Last year the same law firm representing Indian farmers and ranchers won a class action case for 11.000 black farmers. Each farmers recovered over $60,000 for treatment received from the USDA on farm and ranch loans. Call me for more information at (918) 756-8700, ext. 203. There is no cost to you.

In closing, I want to thank all tribal employees who presented me with the Employee Leadership Award during our Christmas dinner. I treasure it more than gold.

Mvto!

The Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to ***The Muscogee Nation News***, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of every month.** ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Standard Class A from Okmulgee, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

Stephanie Barnett, managing editor
Gerald Wofford, photography
Denise Jacobs, page layout
Jennifer Taryole, circulation

Muscogee National Council overview

OKMULGEE — The following consists of actions of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council conducted at the January 27 quarterly session.

Absent was **Sheridan Pickering**, Creek District and **Tommy Pickering**, McIntosh District.

The following veto message was acted upon:

• approved unanimously (24-0) to let stand NCA 00-159, amending the Creek Nation Housing Authority contracts and/or agreements with contractors for home repairs.

Speaker **Wilbur Gouge**, McIntosh District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

In unfinished business the Council:

• approved unanimously (23-0) to table NCA 01-23, appropriating funds to advertise for bids to demolish the old Sapulpa Head Start building and to construct a new Head Start center at the same location in Sapulpa. The bill was originally tabled during the December regular session of the Council.

In Council business it:

• approved (22-0) as amended NCA 01-01, to authorize the principal chief to contract to purchase property in Okmulgee District and appropriating funds for said purpose. The act authorizes the principal chief to contract to purchase property where the Gold Kist Peanut Plant was formerly located — near Sever Street and Box Avenue in Okmulgee — for $50,000;

Larry Bible, Tulsa District, did not vote;

• approved (22-0) NCA 01-02, amending NCA 91-36 (an ordinance of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation repealing NCA 89-46). National Council Act 89-46 approved a contract with Marvin Stepson as the attorney general for the Muscogee Nation. As Stepson did not fulfill employment, NCA 91-36 was enacted in May 1991 to repeal the approval. According to research, the reference in NCA 91-36 to NCA 89-46 was in error. The reference should have been made to NCA 90-46. Therefore, NCA 91-36 is amended to correct the reference of NCA 89-46 to reflect NCA 90-46 in all appropriate places;

Bible was excused from the meeting and did not vote;

• approved (22-0) NCA 01-03, authorizing the principal chief to pursue the feasibility of the Montezuma Lake Project in Okmulgee County. The project, presented to the Council by Lester Ligons, U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Services Tribal Resource Conservationist, consists of the construction of a multipurpose lake on Montezuma Creek. The lake, which would be located between Henryetta and Okmulgee, would provide a water supply to the City of Henryetta;

• approved, (22-0) NCA 01-11, authorizing an appropriation for Wetumka Indian Community to acquire and remodel a building on highway 9 and to repeal NCA 99-44. Eighty-five thousand dollars will be appropriated to purchase land and a building. National Council Act 99-44 appropriated funds for the community to purchase a building; the building was purchased by another party, thus NCA 99-44 has been repealed;

• approved (22-0) NCA 01-12, enacting a new law governing the enactment and codification of legislation and repealing NCA 96-96. The act will be entitled "Chapter One. Legislation; Codification of Laws" and will be placed in Title 30, "National Council/Legislative Branch," of the Code of Law of the Muscogee Nation;

• approved (22-0) NCA 01-17, authorizing the principal chief to enter into an addendum to the lease agreement entered into by and between the Nation and Pitney Bowes Credit Corporation. The addendum contains a waiver of sovereign immunity. The Council waived the Nations immunity from suit for the limited purpose of resolving any disputes between the Nation and Pitney Bowes Credit Corporation arising under the addendum;

• approved (22-0) NCA 01-18, amending NCA 00-97, entitled an ordinance of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing the principal chief to negotiate for and purchase restricted property in Hughes County, State of Oklahoma, and to enter into an agreement with Alabama/Quassartee Ceremonial Ground.

National Council Act 00-97 was amended for the following reasons: it does not clearly describe the 154 acres of restricted land to purchased and does not expressly state that only the surface is to be purchased for the amount authorized ($500 per acre); it authorizes a contract to purchase the land, but the contract could be unenforceable because of the restricted status of the land; it requires that the contract be subject to title clearances and environmental use clearances required by the Nation; since there can be no such contract, it is necessary to clarify the Council's apparent intent that the principal chief must secure title clearances and environmental and use clearances before purchase of the property through a deed approval proceeding in the state district court in Hughes County as required by the Act of August 4, 1947; it authorizes the principal chief to apply for placement of the property into trust after purchase of property, but it is unclear whether the principal chief, before the purchase of the property, must secure title clearances and environmental use clearances sufficient to indicate that the title and environmental requirements for trust acquisitions are likely to be satisfied; and it contains no requirements concerning the appraisal of the property.

• approved (22-0) NCA 01-19, appropriating funds and authorizing the expenditure of funds for the fiscal year 2000 Stop Violence Against Indian Women Grant;

• approved (22-0) NCA 01-20, authorizing the expenditure of Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program funds in the amount of $11,267 received by the tribal social services program;

• approved (22-0) as amended *Tribal Resolution 01-01*, authorizing the principal chief to execute an agreement between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and West Publishing Company. The Council has enacted a new law, NCA 01-12, which will result in the codification of Muscogee Nation law when implemented. The act authorizes the codification committee to select a publisher to publish the Code of Laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and appropriates $100,000 for the implementation of this act.

Interior

continued from page 1

ments can be found to show the origin of most of these accounts or where they were paid. Many records are scattered throughout a number of BIA offices around the country.

Interior claimed it could not comply with a court order to produce documents from the Albuquerque, N.M., office because they were covered in mouse droppings and in a state of disarray.

As a result, Federal District Judge Royce Lamberth found Babbitt, former Secretary of Treasury Robert Rubin and former Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs Kevin Gover in contempt of court for failing to comply in a full and timely manner with a discovery order in the case. To date, approximately $625,000 in sanctions have been leveled against the federal government for violations during the court's consideration of this case.

In Judge Lamberth's 1999 decision, which also held the government in breach of its trust duties to American Indians, he noted that Congress specifically ordered that the Interior secretary "shall account for the daily and annual balance of all funds held in trust by the United States for the benefit of ... an individual Indian."

Since the judge's orders call for a full accounting of funds, Justice appealed, saying that because of lost records such an accounting is impossible. That appeal is pending.

In spite of Judge Lamberth's decisions, Interior scheduled a series of 80 meetings throughout Indian country last year, seeking opinions from trust beneficiaries about the acceptability of statistical sampling rather than an individual accounting to determine the accuracy of current trust accounts.

In early January, Justice filed papers notifying the U.S. Court of Appeals of Babbitt's order on sampling, together with memos from Special Trustee Thomas Slonaker and Gover.

In his memo, Gover acknowledges the "overwhelming majority" of Indian beneficiaries attending the meetings wanted "a transaction-by-transaction reconciliation" of their accounts, not statistical sampling.

As part of Babbitt's recent call for sampling, Justice attempts to narrow the time frame for any court-ordered accounting to no earlier than 1952, despite Judge Lamberth's order to account for all funds since 1887.

Plaintiffs claim that for more than a quarter century, the BIA failed to invest in the modernization of its account systems. In addition, the BIA investment activity in general has left many questions with regard to the potential for funds, were they properly invested, they say, adding that hundreds of millions of dollars in potential interest has been lost because money was left as cash for long periods of time.

Plaintiffs say basic operating principles were neglected by the BIA's Office of Trust Fund Management while tribal resources flowed from the reservations. Without an accounts receivable system and with so many leases "missing," the BIA is unable to tell the trust account holders whether all of the income due on asset leases has been collected. Mineral Management Service operations on tribal lands also continued with no system to guarantee the legal amount due a tribe or individual on those resources was in fact paid.

In 1994 Congress passed the Indian Trust Fund Management Reform Act in an attempt to begin to rectify these long-standing problems. Among other things, it created the Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians and the Advisory Board on Trust Fund Management Reform. It was expected that the Special Trustee would create an accountable system by implementing the reforms necessary for the proper discharge of the secretary's trust responsibilities to Indian nations and people.

However, since that office was created there have been numerous obstacles in resolving the myriad levels of mismanagement. The first special trustee, Paul Homan, resigned in protest of what he claimed were attempts to obstruct his efforts to reconcile trust accounts.

A memo accompanying Babbitt's order on sampling, signed by Slonaker, estimates the cost of the sampling project at $17 million to $70 million. Attorneys for the plaintiffs say Slonaker told them in settlement negotiations last year that he believes a statistical sampling would be a significant waste of time and money and that the government is incapable of furnishing an accurate and complete accounting of the trust accounts, as ordered by Judge Lamberth.

Programs, opportunities

Social services announces field site dates

OKMULGEE — Muscogee Nation Social Services Department is accepting applications for general assistance at field sites in: Eufaula; Holdenville; Muskogee; Okemah; and Sapulpa.

General assistance includes assistance with basic living needs such as shelter and utility expenses.

The field sites and dates are:

• Okemah Indian Community Center, 1100 S. Woody Guthrie St. — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., March 7 and 21 and April 4 and 18;

• Eufaula Indian Community Center, 800 Forest Ave. — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., March 1 and 15 and April 5 and 19;

• Sapulpa Indian Health Center, 1125 E. Cleveland — applications will be accepted from 1 to 3 p.m., March 1 and 15 and April 5 and 19;

• Holdenville Indian Community Center, 224 E. Poplar — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., March 6 and 20 and April 3 and 17;

• Muscogee Indian Community Center, 111 S. Virginia — applications will be accepted from 1 to 3 p.m., March 6 and April 3.

Tribal Towns' Center Organization meeting

OKEMAH — The Tribal Towns' Center Organization will hold its monthly meeting on March 8.

Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at the Tony Hill Tribal Town Center located at 118 Elm St..

Ceremonial ground, church, and organization members are encouraged to attend and become involved with the organization, said Ruth Bible, secretary.

Officers for the organization are: Bill Proctor, chair, Green Leaf Ceremonial Ground Mekko; Roman Hill, vice chair, Pvkvn Tallahassee (Peach Ground) Mekko; and Bible.

The center is available for: ceremonial ground meetings; bingo benefits; birthday dinners; parties; and other occasions.

For more information, contact Bible at (918) 623-9566 or Sheila Harjo at (918) 758-0001.

Community hospital holding health fair

OKEMAH — Creek Nation Community Hospital is holding a health fair on April 20.

Special services offered include: mammograms; eye clinic; women's health; smoking cessation; diabetic clinic; and ultrasound. Children's activities include: face painting; games; and door prizes.

The health fair will provide the following tests free: blood pressure; blood sugar; fat analysis; peak flow; and pulmonary function.

The fair will also have: an educational program on car seat safety; immunizations; a hospital tour; and cardiopulmonary resuscitation classes.

Door prizes will be given away and refreshments will be available.

The hospital is located at 309 N. 14th. For more information on booths, contact Meggin Bean or Sheryl Sharber at (918) 623-2005.

Election board office preparing for fall election

OKMULGEE — The primary election of the 12th session of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council will be held Sept. 21.

All Council seats will be open. Filing dates are Aug. 20 through 22, from 9 a.m to 5 p.m in the election board office located in the Solomon McCombs Executive Office Building located on the capitol complex.

Registered voters who changed their addresses are requested to notify the election board office staff of their new address. Additionally, voters that have had address changes because of 911 are requested to notify staff of new addresses also.

To change an address or for more information, call (918) 756-8700, exts. 294, 349 or 350.

Native American firefighters sought

OKMULGEE — The Bureau of Indian Affairs Eastern Oklahoma Zone Fire Management Office is seeking individuals who are interested in applying to be Muscogee (Creek) Nation Type II Firefighters.

Individuals who qualify will be paid to attend rookie wildland fire training. The training will provide individuals with the knowledge to perform basic fire line activities such as: line construction; pump operations; lopping and scattering of fuels; use of basic fire line hand tools while on holding, patrolling, and mop-up operations.

For more information, contact Dale Glenmore or Jason Waquie at the fire management office at (918) 752-0604. After 5 p.m. call Glenmore at (918) 680-2987 or Waquie at (918) 360-5664.

Conservation services helps protect resources

OKMULGEE — A tribal resource conservation position, established by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Services, is helping the nation care for tribal natural resources.

In 1999 the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the USDA's NRCS entered into a memorandum of understanding to protect, conserve, and enhance the tribes natural resources. As

please see **PROGRAMS...**, page 5

Tribal staffing coordinator selected as employee of the year

OKMULGEE — Alexis Crosley, Muscogee Nation personnel staffing coordinator, has been selected as employee of the year for 2000.

"I would like to thank everyone for the support and believing in me; my door is always open to everyone," Crosley said.

Crosley

Her job duties include: recruiting and staffing personnel; interviewing new employees; and assisting the personnel manager and other staff with daily duties.

Crosley said the most rewarding aspect of the job is that she maintains a very good working relationship with directors, managers, and tribal employees.

Alexis graduated from W.H. Adamson High School in Dallas, Texas and attended Shoreline Community College in Bethel, Wash. She has been employed by the tribe for four years.

She enjoys camping, traveling, and spending time with her sons, Alexander Alvarez, 25, and Christopher Crosley, six, and grandson, Alex, age four.

Wild onion dinners

Salt Creek United Methodist Church
When: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., March 3
Where: Holdenville Indian Community Center — 224 E. Poplar
Cost: the all-you-can-eat wild onion dinner is $6 for adults; $3 for children ages 10 and under
For more information: Call (405) 379-5825

Sam Proctor and B.J. Jackson
When: 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., March 3
Where: Tony Hill Center — 118 Elm St. in Okemah
Cost: Wild onions and many other food items will be sold during a food sale to be held prior to grocery bingo

Muscogee Indian Community Senior Action Group
When: 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., March 10
Where: MIC Center — 111 S. Virginia
Cost: $5 for adults; $2.50 for children ages eight and under

Tulsa Creek Indian Community Women's Auxiliary
When: 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., March 10
Where: TCIC Center — 8611 S. Union
Cost: $7 for adults; $3 for children ages eight and under
For more information: Call (918) 245-5456; (918) 446-7049; or (918) 756-8700, ext. 211

Big Cussetah United Methodist Church
When: 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., March 17
Where: Big Cussetah UMC — from Okmulgee, drive three miles east on U.S. Highway 62 and three and one half miles south on Prairie Bell Road
Cost: the all-you-can-eat dinner is $7 for adults; $3 for children ages 10 and under; and $7 for carry out

Prairie Springs Baptist Church
When: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., March 17
Where: Castle Community Center — located next to the post office
Cost: the all-you-can-eat dinner is $5 for adults; $3.50 for children ages 12 and under

Oklahoma City Muscogee Association
When: 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., March 24
Where: OCMA Center — 543 S.E. 29th
Cost: $5 for adults; $2.50 for children ages five through 10 years of age
For more information: (405) 947-7752

Concharty United Methodist Church
When: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., March 31
Where: Concharty UMC — from U.S. Highway 75, exit at Beggs and drive 7.3 miles east on state highway 16; drive 3.9 miles north on Bixby Road and one mile east
Cost: the all-you-can-eat dinner is $6 for adults; $3 for children ages 10 and under

Duck Creek Ceremonial Ground/Community
When: 11 a.m., April 7
Where: DCIC Center — 10 miles north of Okmulgee on U.S. Highway 75
Cost: $6 for adults; $3 for children

Programs

continued from page 4

result of this memorandum, the NRCS established a tribal resource conservation position to be located at the Muscogee Nation Capital Complex.

The NRCS offers assistance to land users to protect, develop, and enhance soil, and water related resources. These technical services are provided at no cost to the land users.

The conservation service has worked with governmental cost-share programs which have provided individuals financial assistance to establish conservation practices. However, NRCS' objective is to provide quality technical assistance to its clients regardless participation in the cost-share programs.

Legislation during the Clinton administration provided for implementation of USDA programs on Native American lands. It also provides for the definition and removal of any barriers which inhibit this implementation.

The agriculture department currently has several cost-share programs to assist land users with their resource problems and concerns. This includes assistance for a wide variety of land uses. The NRCS is also involved in cultural and environmental education activities which will benefit the citizens of the Muscogee Nation.

For more information on conservation assistance available from USDA-NRCS, contact Lester Ligons, tribal resource conservationist, at (918) 756-8700, ext. 617.

His office is located in the human development building on the tribal capitol complex.

Chief invokes "right of re-entry" at Hanna center

HANNA—In a move to "revitalize" Hanna Indian Community, Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver has invoked a right of reentry clause from tribal law enacted in 1992.

In a proclamation signed Jan. 16, Beaver declared that emergency circumstances within Hanna Indian Community warrant reentry into its facilities. It also includes all structures located on the land tract.

The properties are currently in the control of the Muscogee Nation Department of Community Research and Development until Hanna Indian Community reorganizes and demonstrates that it is able to maintain the facilities.

Chief awarded Jim Thorpe Sports Excellence Award

TULSA — Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver was awarded the Jim Thorpe Sports Excellence Award at Tulsa Indian Affairs Commission's Fourth Annual Dreamkeepers Awards Banquet held in January All Tribes Community Church.

Other categories and recipients include: Will Anquoe Humanitarian Award — Marjorie Dougherty; Lewis B. Ketchum Excellence in Business Award — Cheryl Cohenhour; Dr. Ralph Dru Career and Professional Award — Dr. Baptiste Shunatona; Kenneth Anquoe Lifetime Achievement Award — Sen. Enoch Kelly Haney; Moscelyn Larkin Cultural Achievement Award — Shan Goshorn; Charles Chibitty Family Community Contributor Award — Martha and Charles Squire; Rennard Stickland Education Leadership Award — Dwight Pickering; Perry Aunko Indigenous Language Preservation Award — Durban Feeling; and Red Eagle Sacred Circle of Spirituality Award — the Red Eagle Family.

photo by Gerald Wofford

Muscogee Nation Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver, far right, is pictured with, left to right, his sister, Jean Froman, Sen. Enoch Kelly Haney, and niece, Sara Froman at the Tulsa Indian Affairs Commission's Fourth Annual Dreamkeepers Awards Banquet

Johnson O'Malley program has full staff

OKMULGEE — The Johnson O'Malley program recently announced that is has a full staff, with most of individuals being new members.

photo by Denise Jacobs

Pictured front are Rachael Severs and Virginia Thomas. Pictured in back are: Theresa McKee; Tammy Lewis; Belvin Hill; and Susanna Barnett.

"The JOM Program has a new and enthusiastic group of individuals that have a willingness to make a difference not only within Creek Nation, but for the students and parents within our service area," said Virginia Thomas, program manager.

The staff are: Thomas, a San Diego State University graduate in education; Rachael Severs, program secretary, a Wes Watkins Technology Area Vo-Tech graduate in administrative assistance; Susanna Barnett, field specialist, an East Central University graduate in human resources; Belvin Hill, activities coordinator, a Northeastern State University graduate in education who has teaching credentials in elementary education; Tammy Lewis, Okmulgee JOM Program coordinator, a Central Vo-Tech graduate in business and nursing; and Theresa McKee, office clerk, a Green Country Vo-Tech graduate in medical terminology/IDC9 coding.

Muscogee association offers calendars for sale

OKLAHOMA CITY — The Oklahoma City Muscogee (Creek) Association is selling Maskoke calendars to raise funds for its community center. The calendar includes Indian Baptist church dates. The cost is $3. For more information, call George Bunny at (405) 947-7752.

Tribe breaks ground for Muskogee Travel Plaza and Tulsa Head Start; gives grant to Bacone College

photo by Stephanie Barnett

Below: Breaking ground for Tulsa Head Start are: Muskogee District Rep. Harley Little; Executive Director William Freeman; Human Development Deputy Director Patricia Wind; Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver; Head Start Administration Manager Vicki Tate; Tulsa Head Start Center Supervisor Tasha Davis; and Tulsa District Rep. Jesse Kelley.

photo by Gerald Wofford

Above: Breaking ground for the Muskogee Travel Plaza are: Okmulgee District Rep. Anderson Hale; Muskogee District Rep. Harley Little; Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver; Tulsa District Rep. Mary Sue Peak; Muskogee District Rep. Helen Chupco; and Okmulgee District Rep. David Lewis.

photo by Gerald Wofford

Below: Second Chief A.D. Ellis, far right, witnesses the presentation of a $50,000 grant by Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver to Bacone College President Norman Madsen. The grant will be used to establish a scholarship fund for enrolled Muscogee tribal members attending the college.

2001 State of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation address

Greetings to the members of the National Council, judicial branch, tribal employees, citizens, and other honored guests.

I truly appreciate the distinct honor of standing before you once again to deliver to you the annual State of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Address for 2001. This is the first year of my second four-year term as principal chief of this great Nation.

This past year 2000, although very special to all of us as it marks the new millennium, has also been a time of achieving goals and of strides made in the various programs for the Nation's citizen's. I will highlight the Nation's overall progress in just a few moments, but first let me get back to a statement I made earlier concerning 'The Great Muscogee Nation.' What makes a Nation great? Like our United States — it is the citizens of the Nation that makes it great. The president or chief or leader is only there to serve at the direction of the people. If we succeed and go forth as a Nation, it is due to the united effort of it's people and leaders. On the other hand, if we fall short of that progress, we, likewise, all fall short — for this is a democracy, a united effort, a tribal government where each one of us is a stakeholder. [What] I have stressed again and again in my State of the Nation addresses concerning the key to success —whether in sports, business, or tribal government — is team work. Let's keep the momentum that was started five years ago when I took office and continue on to surpass even our own goals.

This tribal government belongs to all of us– - the chief, the speaker, Council members, employees, and each of you out there seated in this room; the elders; the young people; and most of all to the children who will be the leaders one day. We have a great privilege as citizens of the Muscogee Nation and also a great responsibility to be united in our goal of a great Nation and to keep the lines of communication open during the good times and specially during the times when we are struggling. It is human nature for all of us to point out the shortcomings of someone else when something doesn't go the way we want it, but we must, in order to survive, shoulder our part of the responsibility and ask ourselves 'what can I do to make it better.' Naturally, as your elected leader, I will never fail to shoulder my part of the leadership of this Nation — during good times and bad, but borrowing from President Clinton's now famous words — 'it takes a village....' I am here to testify that it does indeed take a village — or in this case, the entire tribal village — if we are to remain strong, progressive, and see our dreams and hopes accomplished.

> *"This tribal government belongs to all of us...the elders; the young people; and most of all to the children who will be the leaders one day."*

On that note, I am proud to inform you that the State of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation is strong and I am committed to keeping it strong over the next years of my term. And, I hope each of you are committed in these efforts as well. Let us be the solutions and not the problem!

All Creek Nation programs have continued in their dedication to providing the much needed services that our tribal citizens deserve. I commend the agency heads of the independent programs, directors, managers, and all support personnel for their efforts. One such case is the staff of the social service program who had processed the literally hundreds of emergency energy assistance needs of citizens which led to Oklahoma, and other area states, being declared by the president [as] national disaster areas. Other programs assisted social services in the aftermath of the recent storms as well and I thank them.

> *"Assisting in bringing in more dollars to our tribal coffers is our aggressive investment policy...the permanent fund [account] has earned $14.25 million and $2.75 million reserved for tribal enterprises."*

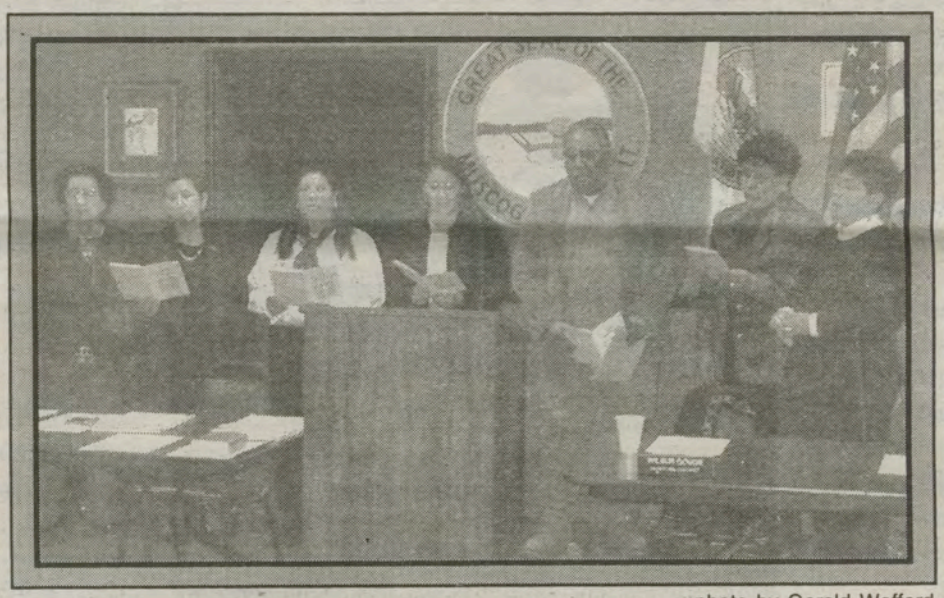


photo by Gerald Wofford

Singing a Maskoke hymn for the occasion of the principal chief's delivery of the State of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation address are: Muskogee District Rep. Helen Chupco; Ruthie Burgess; Terry Dutchy; Cynthia Coachman; Alfred Berryhill; Loretta Denny; and Alene Starr.

An overall profile of the tribe for this year includes:

• the office of personnel services reports figures that reflect good employment opportunities for citizens through the provision of jobs to approximately 600 employees who work here at the tribal complex [which is] an increase from recent years. That is not counting the 600 or so employees hired by the housing authority and health administration and other tribal entities. Combined, the tribe has in excess of 1,200 employees. This increase represents an overall trickle down effect which boosts the local economy while raising our citizens standard of living. A three percent cost of living raise for all employees was provided this year again, as well as legislation passed by the National Council to give the Council an increase in their salaries. Also, an increase was given to the principal chief and second chief. Employees — thank you for your efforts and I would ask that you continue being productive in your jobs;

• through the work of dedicated employees, tribal services are provided to Creek and Indian clients through three major divisions: the division of community services — which administers the social services department; children and family services; community development; food distribution; and the office of child care. The division of human development administers: the employment and training program; the Eufaula Dormitory; Head Start —which just had a ground breaking [for] the new center in Tulsa; higher education; and the Johnson O'Malley Program. The division of tribal affairs which administers; realty/trust services; the roads construction program; economic development; federal roads program; and transportation improvement;

• I would like to point out all the work the real property and facilities department has been doing in renovation of the old elderly nutrition dining hall...into new offices. We are excited about that and also the fact that, through the hard work of our guys, the roof work and addition of heating and air conditioning units have been accomplished at the main complex and the mound building;

• under the office of administration is: the self-governance office; communications; real property and facilities; general services administration; management information services; personnel; and senior services;

• additionally, services to the tribe are provided by: office of the treasury; citizenship; election [board]; lighthorse; department of justice — who have been working on codification of our tribal laws; Native American Housing And Self Determination Act [programs] and housing offices; office of public gaming; and tax commission — which just recently saw the enactment of a revised sales tax code and motor vehicle tax code. The tribal tag tax code needed revision in order to be in compliance with the new state tax law;

• [in] budgetary matters, we approved an annual budget last year in excess of $65 million dollars — including self-governance and Housing and Urban Development — that has, in part, been due to our revenue-generating business[es]: the travel plaza; our bingo facilities; and tax revenues from smoke shops, fuel and tribal tags. Assisting in bringing in more dollars to our tribal coffers is our aggressive investment policy. According to the controller's report, the permanent fund [account] has earned $14.25 million (invested in treasuries and equities) and $2.75 million reserved for tribal enterprises.

> *"Never have the stakes been higher for Indian tribes...than now. We face a [predominantly] anti-Indian administration in our nation's capitol...."*

The total then would be $17 million in permanent fund growth, which does not include another $2.4 million received in interest and dividends — which the tribe has spent this past year through special appropriations by the National Council;

please see **STATE...**, page 7

MUSCOGEE *people*

Muscogee players help lead Oklahoma to national championship

by Gerald Wofford

The year 2000 was very special for the University of Oklahoma Sooners football team. Their season record was a perfect 14-0. This undefeated team won more games than any other University of Oklahoma football team in a single season — even surpassing the winning season levels of the Bud Wilkinson and Barry Switzer eras.

This team is made up of talented indiviudals. Heupel, Calmus, Griffin, and Marshall have become household names in Oklahoma, but this team is more than individuals. It is a solid group that works as a cohesive unit — with vital members of that unit being Muscogee citizens.

Jeremy Hess, Bary Holleyman, and Matt McCoy have each made their contribution to this extraordinary team.

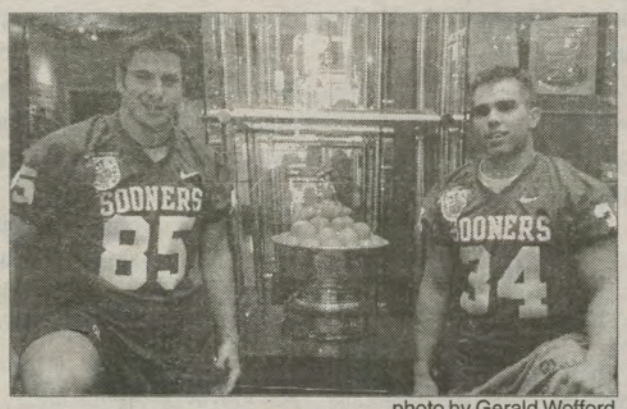


photo by Gerald Wofford

Hess and McCoy shown with an Orange Bowl trophy

"This year was amazing" said Hess, a junior from Newcastle who plays tight end, fullback, and is on special teams such as kick-off and kick-off return.

"This season was a dream come true," adds junior Barry Holleyman, who played high school football at Putnam City North in Oklahoma City.

Matt McCoy, of Jenks, also saw playing time on the special teams units and in the defensive secondary.

All three tribal citizens were recruited under former Sooner's head coach John Blake. Under the Blake tenure, the football team saw their worst losing period in a three-year stint. Morale from the players, as well as fans, was at an all-time low.

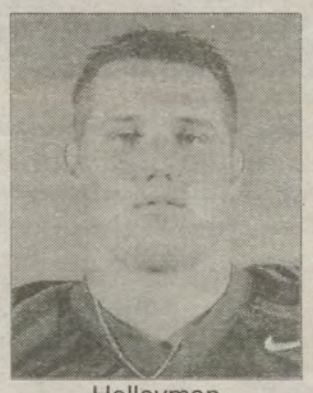
Hess, Holleyman, and McCoy experienced the beginning of the Bob Stoops era. Coach Stoops, who accepted the head coaching job after being defensive coordinator at the University of Florida, began to rebuild the program by instilling confidence and enthusiasm in what had become a dismal place. These players have seen the changes first hand.

"The difference between this team now and the one that was here three years ago is incredible," said McCoy, "the confidence, discipline, and success that Coach Stoops gives to everyone is contagious." Hess also mentioned that Stoops is a great leader and role model.

Of their Muscogee heritage, each one points to a family member who shares their history. "My mother, Paula, always mentions her great-grandmother, Pearl Fipps, who lived in Paden and all the Creek church dinners my family would attend," said Hess. McCoy's father, Mike, proudlly mentions that his grandfather also attended the Muscogee churches that dot the Wetumka area. Holleyman's father, Dexter, fondly recalls growing up in Okmulgee.

Holleyman was the starting defensive lineman for the Sooners this year — a defense that put the clamps on offensive powerhouse such as Nebraska, Kansas State and Florida State. He considers the Kansas State team as the most toughest and most physically demanding team to play.

While Holleyman has seen a personal goal of his own come true — a starting position on the University of Oklahoma football team — McCoy and Hessman are working toward that same goal. The two expect to make good things happen for themselves next fall. "It's back to the grind; we all want to get better, " said McCoy. Hess wants to work on his speed and conditioning in order to ensure that he gets more playing time. "We're all working toward Pasadena," adds Hess in reference to next year's College Football National Championship game which will be played in the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, Calif.



Holleyman

While each one expresses personal goals, Hess, Holleyman, and McCoy, as well as the rest of the Sooner squad, work as a team — both on and off the field. This was evident while observing them interacting with teammates.

The historic game of Muscogee stickball was played to right a wrong or to come to an important decision. In the spirit of this ancient tribal ritual, it is a good feeling to know — as we look at the past football season of the University of Oklahoma — that three Muscogee players helped settle what team is truly the best in the nation.

State

continued from page six

• as a measure of our fiscal accountability, we have received, again, this year the "Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting" which is the highest form of recognition for state and local governments. We are very proud of this accomplishment;

• the citizenship board has certified an enrollment of 49,634 tribal citizens;

• tribal trust land is well in excess of: 5,000 acres; unallotted land in excess of 300 acres; and fee land in excess of 100 acres. We have approximately 70 facilities totalling approximately 464,000 square feet of office and building space which totals to an estimated dollar value of $8 million;

• in education, the higher education program reported that we had 110 college graduates this past year! That is wonderful. Also, the tribe and tribal citizens continue to take advantage of classes offered here at the complex by cooperative agreements with several colleges including Bacone College which holds college courses in criminal justice at the judicial branch courtroom;

• the pursuit of sound, lucrative, and diversified economic development opportunities continues in this administration with several pieces of legislation enacted (or pending passage) to increase the tribe's land base through purchase of property within our jurisdiction. One of the major activities of the economic development program under the division of tribal affairs has also been the development of an agreement to build an office complex for the Bureau of Indian Affairs in Muskogee. Sites have been located and a lease agreement is underway between the tribe and the BIA; and

• in providing suitable housing for Creek and Indian clients, recently created NAHASDA positions and offices have been busy assisting in providing housing and environmental services to meet clients' housing needs.

The legislative priorities for this administration this coming year will be economic development diversification and education and better client services to tribal citizens throughout all the programs of the Nation. The health program, unfortunately, needs a lot of attention and work in order to make the program responsive to the critical health needs of tribal and Indian clients.

On the national front, and particularly in the area of health care, I was recently asked to serve as a tribal representative on the Level of Need Funding Committee. I accepted and have been to several meetings and was just notified that I am to take a membership position on that critically important new committee.

I have and will continue to pursue the exercise of tribe's sovereignty through frequent trips to the nation's capitol and across the nation, speaking out on behalf of the issues that involve the tribe, and I continue to keep the Muscogee (Creek) Nation at the forefront in national Indian issues through membership by appointment on several critical boards and committees. I will continue to fulfill these roles as the 107th Congress under a Republican administration gets underway. Never have the stakes been higher for Indian tribes...than now. We face a [predominantly] anti-Indian administration in our nation's capitol and every tribe is concerned about the new policies, agendas, and actions that may arise concerning Indian issues. As one of the newly- appointed tribal leaders for the Presidential Transition Team, I have made several trips and will be going next week to Washington D.C. to meet with members of Congress and the Senate on what we — as sovereign Indian nations —expect from the Bush administration.

A major focus for me and several of the Five Tribes leaders has been lobbying at the capitol for the Five Nations Citizens Reform Act which now has sponsors in Congress and will proceed, hopefully successfully, through to passage as federal law.

I am still a member of the Department of the Interior Advisory Committee, the Democratic National Committee and was just...appointed to a BIA National Law Enforcement Committee.

In summary, I encourage the National Council to work with the administration toward a common goal of mutual respect and cooperation and the desire to provide the best services we can to all Creek citizens. And citizens and employees — my word to you 'teamwork'...toward a progressive future that we all expect and deserve. Thank You.

Editor's note: The annual State of the Nation address of Muscogee Nation Principal Chief R. Perry was printed in its entirety. The tribal Constitution, at Article 5, section 4, requires the principal chief to deliver the speech every year.

Education

Boy's team places as runner-up in championship

GLENPOOL — Fourth grade Glenpool student Jared BigBear finished his first football season winning runner-up in the championship playoffs at Broken Arrow.

BigBear

BigBear played offensive tackle and defensive end.

He is the son of Anita Sue Powell of Glenpool.

His grandparents are Vena Mae and Willie Randall of Preston and the late Dave Powell, Preston.

He belongs to the Tiger Clan and Arbeka Tribal Town.

Tulsa girl named all-state softball utility player

TULSA — Bishop Kelley High School Senior Amanda Johnson was named to the all-state softball team as a utility player.

Johnson

Johnson's pitching, outfield, and hitting abilities assisted the Kelley Comets to win the state 5A title championship held in Norman in October. During the first game in Norman, against Lawton McArthur, Johnson drove in the only run during a pitch out. Johnson pitched a one hitter against the number one ranked 5A team, the Catoosa Indians, in the state semifinals.

She received other 2000 honors of: Metro Lakes All-Conference Pitcher, Player of the Year and All Region 7 Outfielder. In 1999, she was a Metro Lakes All-Conference Pitcher and in 1998 she was named Metro Lakes All Conference Utility Player.

Johnson began pitching competitively at the age of 12 and has been playing softball since the age of eight. She plans to attend college on a softball scholarship and is being considered by Sam Houston University in Huntsville, Texas and the University of North Carolina at Pembroke.

She is the daughter of Pauletta and Charley Johnson Jr.

Her paternal grandparents are the late Charley and Judy Johnson of Henryetta.

Maternal grandparents are the late Edward and Pauline Washington Elephant of Shawnee.

Bacone College receives grant from tribe

MUSKOGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation has given a grant of $50,000 to Bacone College to establish a scholarship fund for tribal members attending the school.

When Steve Camp, the director of development for Bacone College, spoke with Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver last year, Beaver expressed interest in supporting any legislation to this affect. That legislation was introduced and approved during the November regular session of the Muscogee National.

A check was presented to the school's president Dr. Norman P. Madsen and Chief Financial Officer Myrle Horner in January.

To be eligible for the funds, students must be enrolled tribal members of the Muscogee Nation and must maintain a 2.0 grade point average. The maximum amount per student will be $2,000 per semester, depending on financial need.

For more information, contact Bacone College Financial office at (918) 683-4581, ext. 7294.

Methodist communications offering scholarships

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — United Methodist Communications is accepting applications for the agency's: fourth Racial Ethnic Minority Fellowship; The Stoody-West Fellowship; and the Leonard M. Perryman Communications Scholarship for Ethnic Minority Students.

Racial Ethnic Minority Fellowship

The full-time, salaried, one-year fellowship will be given to a recent college or seminary graduate for a 12-month period beginning Aug. 1. The deadline is March 13.

The fellowship offers hands-on experience and mentoring in annual conference communications, with the aim of building communications leaders of racial ethnic minority background within the UMC. The program was begun in 1998 to address the under representation of racial ethnic minority communicators in the church's 65 U.S. annual (regional) conferences.

Applicants must be United Methodist with an educational background in communications and an interest in exploring annual conference communications as a possible career.

The fellowship will provide a salary of $30,000 plus benefits, moving and travel expenses.

The recipient will be place in one of the church's U.S. annual conferences to work alongside an experienced communicator in a variety of media. A stipend is provided for the annual conference communicator serving as a mentor to the fellow.

For more information, contact: REM Fellowship Committee, c/o Conference Resourcing Team, United Methodist Communications, P.O. Box 320, Nashville, TN 37202-0320; 1 (888) CRT-4UMC; e-mail REM@umcom.umc.org; or see the web site at http://crt.umc.org/rem.

Stoody-West Fellowship

Two $6,000 Stoody-West Fellowship in religious journalism are offered in recognition of the professional competence and service of Dr. Ralph Stoody and Dr. Arthur West, leaders in public relations and information services in the UMC from 1940 through 1975.

The grants will assist two Christians, who intend to pursue careers in religious journalism, in their postgraduate studies at a U.S. school.

Religious journalism is interpreted to include news writing for secular press, church press, and for church institutions. The committee will consider appropriate news and journalism forms, including electronic and broadcast media, as well as print.

The deadline is March 15. Mail applications to: Fellowship Committee, United Methodist Communications, Public Media Division, P.O. Box 320, Nashville, TN 37202-0320; e-mail Scholarships@Umcom.umc.org; or see the web site at http://www.umcom.org/scholarships/.

Leonard M. Perryman Communications Scholarships

Two $2,500 Leonard M. Perryman Communications Scholarships for Ethnic Minority Students are offered annually in recognition of Perryman, a journalist for the UMC for nearly 30 years.

The scholarships aid U.S. ethnic-minority undergraduate students who intend to pursue careers in religious communications and are enrolled in either their junior or senior year in accredited institutions of higher education in the U.S.

The purpose of the scholarships is to enable the recipients to continue their studies in communication and to promote a level of excellence in communication on the undergraduate level by ethnic minority students. It includes such media as audiovisual, electronic, and print journalism.

The deadline is March 15. Mail applications to: Scholarship Committee, United Methodist Communications, Public Media Division, P.O. Box 320, Nashville, TN 37202-0320; e-mail Scholarships@Umcom.umc.org; or see the web site at http://www.umcom.org/scholarships/.

please see **EDUCATION**..., page 11

"Fishbone Fred" spreads safety message to area Indian students

WELEETKA — With a mission to keep children safe, Fred "Fishbone Fred" Delp is using music to address modern youth issues.

Delp

In January be brought his message to youth attending Dustin, Graham, Hanna, and Ryal schools.

Delp has made child safety his "personal mission" how little some children know about safety.

"...during my concerts, I'd often ask kids in the audience questions about safety. I was amazed at how few children know simple things such as their address and phone number — information that could one day save their lives. That's when I became committed to teaching children safety information through music."

Theresa Burch, the manager of youth smoking prevention at Brown & Williamson Co., said the company is proud to sponsor the tour. "Fishbone Fred is an engaging, warm, caring adult who uses music to convey important safety messages to kids. One of these messages is to stay away from cigarettes, to stand up to peer pressure with pride and confidence. Kids love Fred because he's fun and entertaining and they can tell he really cares about them."

photo by Denise Jacobs

Fred "Fishbone Fred" Delp is pictured with Dustin students, left to right, front row — Aleia Shawdah; Minah Birdcreek; Kendra Artussee; and Melissa Liges; back — Clayton Smith, Delp; and Craig Cousins.

Delp's newest children's album, "Life is Real," addresses youth issues such as: ethnic diversity; nonviolent alternatives to problem-solving; teamwork; using good judgment; and developing a positive self-image. All of his recordings are available through his web site — www.fishbonefred.com.

The performance was underwritten by the John Crow IV Memorial Foundation and Brown & Williamson Co.

Birthdays

Wilson baby celebrates first birthday

WILSON — Mehenwa Fotenetka Williams celebrated her first birthday on Jan. 6 with a bumble bee party theme at Wilson Indian Community Center

She turned one on Dec. 28.

Williams

Special guests at the party included "Cupcake the Love Clown," who entertained guests with singing, face painting, and balloon animals. A puppet show was accompanied by "Winnie the Pooh" and "Tigger."

Among those attending were: her parents, Shawn Williams and Nichole Green, both of Wilson; her sister, Alaysia; her grandparents, Barton and Rita Williams of Wilson; her great-grandfather, Thomas Berryhill of Wilson; and cousins, Eco Barnett of Bristow, Brittany Berry of Wilson, MacKenzie Roberts of Graham, and Maya, Mekko, and Che Watson of Dewar; and Dimitria Sissortail.

She is the maternal granddaughter of Tilda Green of Valley Center, Calif.

She belongs to the Coyote Clan and is the daughter of the Alligator Clan and Kassetv Tribal Town.

She is of Maskoke and Kumeyaay descent.

Accomplishment

Citizen joins law firm as senior counselor

WASHINGTON — Barry W. Brandon has joined the firm Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer & Feld, L.L.P. as a senior counselor in the public law and policy practice group.

Brandon will advise clients regarding Native American law and policy, with particular emphasis on Indian gaming and water rights settlements.

Most recently, Brandon was chief of staff at the National Indian Gaming Commission in Washington, D.C. where he assisted the chair person and associate commissioners in formulating and implementing U.S. policy and priorities for more than 300 Indian gaming operations. Previously, he was general counsel at the commission.

Before joining the commission, Brandon served as the deputy director of the secretary's Indian Water Rights Office at the U.S. Department of the Interior, where he was the lead negotiator on several complex Indian water rights settlement negotiations. Before assuming that post, he was a senior trial attorney at the U.S. Department of Justice, where he handled civil litigations claims to enforce federally protected rights and interests of Indians and Indian tribes. Previously, Brandon was in private practice in Seattle, Wash.

In 1999 Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt appointed Brandon as a commissioner of the Indian Arts and Crafts Board, where he currently serves as chair.

Brandon received his bachelor of arts degree in 1983 from Western Washington University and his *juris doctorate* in 1987 from the University of Washington School of Law. He is a founding member of the Native American Bar Association and a past president and founding member of the Northwest Indian Bar Association.

He is of Muscogee and Seneca descent.

Hale completes four-year residency

OKLAHOMA CITY — Brent O. Hale Jr., M.D. has completed his four-year residency with the University of Oklahoma Health Science Center, Department of Emergency Medicine.

Hale

Graduation was held June 23 at the Petroleum Club.

Hale is now on staff at the University Hospital Trauma Center in Oklahoma City, under management of Morningstar Emergency Physicians. He also serves in the U.S. Army Medical Corp assigned to the 2291st U.S. Army Hospital as an emergency medicine physician.

He is a 1980 graduate of Okmulgee High School. His undergraduate studies were completed at the University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kan., with a major in chemistry. He attended Howard Medical School in Boston, Mass. While serving his residency, Hale worked at Creek Nation Community Hospital emergency room.

Hale, his wife, Monica, and their three children, Jessica, Adam, and Cheyenne live in Norman. He is the son of Brent and Bernice Harjo Hale and the grandson of the late Bennie Lewis Harjo and Lonie Givens Harjo Lowe.

Muscogee artist holding one-man art exhibition

BROKEN ARROW — A one-man art exhibition of Eufaula artist Jon Tiger is being held on March 3 through 10 at Indian Territory Gallery located at 114 S. Main.

The exhibition is featuring new works in watercolor, pencil, and acrylic from miniatures to large paintings. A reception for Tiger will be held from noon to 3 p.m.

Wilson girl places first at Tulsa Baby Pageant

TULSA — Alaysia Opvnv Williams won first place in the queen division at Tulsa Lions Club's Tulsa Baby Pageant 2000 held in October at the Brady Theater.

Williams

Williams also received first place in the beauty contest.

She is the daughter of Shawn Williams and Nichole Green, both of Wilson Community.

She is the granddaughter of Barton and Rita Williams of Wilson Community.

Her maternal grandmother is of Tilda Green of Valley Center, Calif.

Her great-grandfather is Thomas Berryhill of Wilson Community.

She belongs to the Coyote Clan and is the daughter of the Alligator Clan and Kassetv Tribal Town.

She is of Maskoke and Kumeyaay descent.

Citizen ensures Red Cross programs accessible to all communities

TULSA — Muscogee tribal citizen Dannette McIntosh has recently attained the position of diversity outreach coordinator with the Tulsa area chapter of the American Red Cross.

The new position was created to address diverse issues in the community. McIntosh's duties will include ensuring Red Cross programs are accessible to all communities and that Red Cross staff and volunteers are reflective of the community.

On Nov. 16, Roger Dahl, chief executive officer for the Tulsa Area Chapter, introduced McIntosh as the diversity outreach coordinator during a diversity reception where over 100 Tulsa leaders came together to learn about Red Cross services.

For more information on diversity outreach, call: (918) 813-1215; or visit the web site at www.tulsaredcross.org.

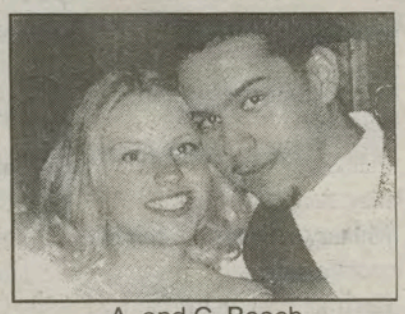
submitted photo

Danette McIntosh, far left, is pictured with Otis Clark, a survivor of the Tulsa Race Riot of 1921, and Debbie Dill, Red Cross Diversity Reception Chair.

Nuptials

Phillips and Beach

TULSA — Anna Margaret Kern Phillips and Cody Donathan Beach were married Nov. 3 at St. Catherine's Catholic Church.


A. and C. Beach

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David Phillips of Kiefer.

The groom is the son of LaDonna Beach of Glenpool.

The couple will reside in Glenpool.

Muscogee Veterans

OKLAHOMA CITY — Master Sgt. Charles J. Henderson is currently serving as an Individual Mobilization Augmentee reservist for the 72nd Air Base Wing Chapel at Tinker Air Force Base.

Henderson

He is responsible to the NCOIC of the Chaplain Service for assisting in resource and administrative support for over 22,000. He receives training in implementing policies and procedures for managing chapel religious program support and customer service. His is a veteran of the Desert Storm War.

Henderson was born in Arkansas City, Kan., where he currently resides. He and his wife, Margaret, have five children: Anthony and Camille Henderson of Forth Worth, Texas; and Yakee, Thyatira, and Yhanice Henderson of Arkansas City.

NOEL BIBLE

CONCORD, Calif. — Noel "Pete" Bible died Nov. 26.

He was born at Lone Star (Broken Arrow) on Jan. 29, 1928 to Emmet and Mable Box Bible on his father's allotment.

Bible relocated to California in 1936 where pursued vocation in cabinet-making. He retired from the building trade in 1995.

He was preceded in death by: his parents; and grandparents, Mulsey Chisholm and Lewis Bible.

He is survived by: his former wife, Ann; a daughter, Dana of Walnut Creek, Calif.; a son, John Bible; two granddaughters, Melissa and Kristin Bible of Germantown, Md.; a brother, Dana Bible of San Leandro, Calif.; a sister, Bobbe Kennedy of Glenpool; nieces and nephews, Jon Madrid, Mark Madrid, Dennis Kish, Lisa Madrid, Margo O'Dell, and Jaime Faris; and many other relatives.

His remains were cremated and interred at Oak Grove Cemetery in Broken Arrow.

Big Cussetah Methodist dedicates sidewalk in memory of late member

submitted photos

Former Big Cussetah Methodist Church pastor, Rev. Harry Long, and current pastor, Rev. Pablo Alvarado, conduct a dedication program for a new sidewalk at Big Cussetah Methodist Church.
The sidewalk, which leads from the church and arbor to the community building, was dedicated in the memory of Sallie Beaver Moore, a life time member of the church.

WILFORD GOUGE

HANNA — Funeral services for Wilford Gouge were held Jan. 16 at Freewill Baptist Church with Rev. David Deere officiating.

Wake services were held Jan. 15 at the church.

Gouge was born Dec. 6, 1953 in McAlester to Albert and Sallie Spaniard Gouge and died Jan. 12.

Gouge was an artist. He was an Army veteran.

He was preceded in death by: his parents; a sister, Melissa Gouge; and a brother, Ernest Gouge.

He is survived by: a son, Delsin Gouge of Oklahoma City; brothers, Felix Gouge of Oklahoma City, Cecil Gouge of Tulsa, Chebon Gouge of Eufaula, William Gouge of Oklahoma City; sisters, Elizabeth Townsend of Okmulgee, Evelyn Wood of Oklahoma City, Sarah Gouge of Tulsa, Helen Gouge of Oklahoma City, Nancy Deere of Okmulgee, Peggy Gouge of Oklahoma City, and Kristine Gouge of Toronto, Canada.

Pallbearers were: Woodrow Harjo; Sonny Gouge; Charles Harley; Sarge Friday; Michall Wood; and Raymond Francis.

Military honors were conducted by the Mvskoke Nation Honor Guard.

Interment was at the Gouge Family Cemetery.

ELMER HARJO

OKEMAH — Funeral services for Elmer Lee Harjo were held Jan. 9 at The House of Prayer with Rev. Tim Dodson officiating.

He was born Feb. 10, 1931 to Barney and Nina Collins Harjo and died Jan. 5 in Okemah.

He married Mary Nelson Harjo on Dec. 13, 1956 in Coahella, Calif. He was a member of the House of Prayer and enjoyed fishing and being outdoors.

Harjo was preceded in death by: his parents and one infant daughter.

He is survived by: his wife of the home; daughters, Delores Strode of Okemah, Linda Dale, Deborah Little, Kathryn Welkley, all of Fayetteville, Ark.; sons, Elmer Harjo Jr. of Stroud and Jerry Harjo of Fayetteville, Ark.; brothers, John Harjo of Okemah, Ben Harjo of Bullhead City, Ark.; sisters, Elsie Tipken and Lena McCormick, both of Okemah.

Pallbearers were: Jerry Harjo; Debbie Harjo; Josh Harjo; Gene Shields; Gary Brown; and Scotty Brown.

Interment was at Castle Cemetery.

FREEMAN MARSHALL

COWETA — Funeral services for Freeman Marshall were held Jan. 3 at Wright Funeral Home Chapel with Revs. George Miller and Ronald McHenry officiating.

He was born Feb. 24, 1909 in Porter to James and Setty Apeuka Marshall and died Dec. 31 at Hillcrest Hospital in Tulsa.

Marshall graduated from Haskell Institute in Lawrence, Kan. He enlisted in the Army Air Force on March 6, 1942 and was honorably discharged on Sept. 13, 1945 after serving in World War II.

Freeman worked as a nurseryman for 25 years until his retirement in 1971. He was a very active worker and member of Broken Arrow Indian United Methodist Church.

He enjoyed gardening and cooking.

Marshall was preceded in death by: his parents; sister, Mary James; and brothers, Tomas, Arthur, and Billy.

He is survived by: one son, Richard Grimster of England; grandchildren, Lucy and Marcus of England; nephews, O.E. "Sonny" and Thomas James, both of El Reno; a niece, Anna Gandy of Coweta; and several other relatives and friends.

Pallbearers were: Ronald McHenry; Chuck McHenry; Harry Perryman; Robert "Sam" Bush; Richard Gandy; and Thomas James.

Interment was at Vernon Cemetery in Coweta.

JOSHUA STARR

OKMULGEE — Funeral services for Joshua Starr were held on Jan. 5 at Okmulgee Indian Baptist Church with Rev. Eugene Harjo officiating.

Wake services were held Jan. 4 at the church.

He was born July 5, 1916 in the Salem area to Lewis and Mahala Chotkey Starr and died Jan. 1 in Henryetta.

He was a long time member of Hutchechubba Church and attended Salem school. Starr served in the Army during World War II.

He enjoyed fishing.

He was preceded in death by: his wife, Melissa; daughter, Karon Starr; two brothers; and two sisters.

He is survived by: daughters, Helen Butler of Henryetta, Marie Starr of Morris, Darlene Stratton of Henryetta, Rhonda Starr of Okmulgee; a brother, Geronimo Starr of Stillwater; sisters, Pauline Proctor of Nuyaka, Rosina Johnson of McAlester; 14 grandchildren; and 21 great grandchildren .

Interment was at Okmulgee Baptist Church cemetery.

LOU ANNA WELLS

OKEMAH — Funeral services for Lou Anna Wells were held Jan. 8 at Creek Chapel Methodist Church with Rev. Edwin Jimboy officiating.

Wake services were held Jan. 7 at the church.

She was born June 10, 1935 in Clearview to Pete and Annie Marsey Harjo and died Jan. 3 in Stilwell.

She married "Dick" Frank Wells in 1961. Wells was a long time member of Creek Chapel and was a homemaker. She enjoyed making quilts, knitting, sewing, and cooking.

Wells is preceded in death by: her husband; parents; and a sister, Minnie Beaver.

She is survived by: daughters, Teresa Golden, Mary Wells and Lendy Harjo, all of Stilwell and Jo Anna Harjo of Tulsa; sons, Jerry Golden of Pinecreek, George Golden of Bristow, James Golden of Tulsa, and Walter Wells of Okemah; sisters, Helen Jimboy of Clearview and Lettie Randell of Henryetta.

Pallbearers were: George Fixico; Bruce Randell; Noah Jack; Pete Jack; Stanley Birdcreek; and Jacob Fixico.

Interment was at Creek Chapel cemetery.

MARYLAND WILLIE

MORRIS — Funeral services for Maryland Willie were held Dec. 26 at Big Cussetah Methodist Church with Revs. Jim Alexander, Mike Harjo, and William Alexander officiating.

Wake services were held Dec. 25 at the church.

Willie was born June 18, 1914 in Okemah to Leney Eufaula and Susie Soloman Harjo and died Dec. 21 in Okmulgee.

She was preceded in death by: her husband, George Tooskey Willie; a son, Sam Willie, two infant children; and one great-grandson, Anthony Stout.

She is survived by: daughters, Georgia Layton of Okmulgee, Carolyn John of Idabel, Katherine Willie and Christine Berryhill, both of Morris; sons, Johnny Willie of the home and Darvin Willie of Tulsa; 12 grandchildren; 21 great-grandchildren; four great-great-grandchildren; and several step grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers were: Neal John; Lindell Berryhill Jr.; Brandon Berryhill; David Layton Jr.; Louie Layton; Richard Myers; Mitchell Aaron; Eugene Layton; David Layton; and Tooskey Willie.

Her great-grandsons served as honorary pallbearers.

USDA

continued from page 1

Native American ranchers have suffered at the hands of USDA — denial and delay of funds when applying for USDA credit or disaster programs; being told that there were no loan funds available, while white farmers were given loans."

Currently around 800 Indian farmers and ranchers have joined the lawsuit.

Suit

continued from page 1

For more information regarding the law suit, contact lawyers Greg Kirschner or Kimberly Chase at: (202) 331-7050; Conlon, Frantz, Phelan, & Pires, LLP, Attorneys at Law, 1818 N. St. N.W., Suite 700, Washington, D.C. 20036; or firm@CFPPllaw.com.

Letters

continued from page 2

cheon of traditional food. Many of the presenters addressed the youth and encouraged each of them to complete their education and prepare for the future.

Turner Bear, a former officer for the Bureau of Indian Affairs Higher Education Office, presented to the young people the philosophy that one can take something to help benefit themselves, however he or she should give something in return to benefit others.

We appreciate Mr. and Mrs. Culley for their voluntary service and community involvement. Both of them took a day of leave from their places of employment to bring the dancers. Individually and together, Farron and Irene promote positive attitude and behavior with positive results in these young people. Both of them are fostering and nurturing the leaders of the future. They are passing on an important and significant part of our culture.

We wanted to recognize the dancers and the sponsors through the tribal newspaper so that the Nation will know that our young people can focus positive energy in a positive way to the non-Indian community. We as Creek people can take pride in our youth when these young people channel time and energy to promote our culture.

Joyce Bear, Muscogee Nation Cultural Preservation manager, presented an overview on the lives of Muscogee people and their original homelands. She, dressed in traditional Maskoke attire, exhibited a display board, baskets, and other items. She also demonstrated dart gun blowing.

Joyce encouraged the young dancers and informed them of the need to understand their tribal history in preparing for the future. Her presentation was informative and enlightening. She spoke to an audience that was mostly non-Indian.

We appreciate Mrs. Bear for her service and community involvement. She represents the Muscogee Nation very well in a professional manner with the wisdom and grace of a true Muscogee woman of honor.

Norma Marshall, Wetumka

Family is thanks social services for assistance

Editor:

On behalf of the Samuel family, we want to express our thanks to Muscogee Nation Social Services staff for financial assistance for the burial of our brother and nephew, Bobby Samuel.

We thank God, that when the Choctaw Nation offered little assistance and a lot of red tape, you stood ready to assist.

As a Choctaw it's not a good feeling when you get no help from your tribe when it is needed the most.

Death is sure to come and it is an area of concern the Choctaws need to address.

God will bless those that help when there is a real need.

Betty Samuel, Tulsa

December district court filings

Civil Actions:

- Royal Finance vs. Sharon Chalakee, small claims
- Burnett Furniture vs. Andra and Benjamin Barnett, small claims
- Keybank USA, N.A. vs. Geraldine Mull, foreign judgment
- Greenwood Trust Co. vs. Kelly Dawn Lamberson, foreign judgment
- Peggy Brown vs. Jona Tigar; ex-parte
- Tiffany Been vs. Lester Been, ex-parte
- Naomi McNac King vs. Lester Been, ex-parte

Criminal — felony:

Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Katherine Tecumseh, embezzlement

Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Joe Guitterez — actual physical control of a motor vehicle; possession of marijuana; possession of firearm; possession of firearm while intoxicated; possession of illegal weapon; possession of paraphernalia

January district court filings

Protective Orders:

- Evelyn Bucktrot vs. Lester Bucktrot and Sarah Bucktrot
- Lester Bucktrot and Sarah Bucktrot vs. Gary Bucktrot and Jackie Rowe;
- Norman Fields vs. Kathy Harrison;
- Earnest Harjo vs. Carressa Jackson

Garnishments:

- Cash Depot vs. Tiger Hobia
- Cash Depot vs. Culley Lowe

Traffic:

- Susanna Barnett

Felonies:

- Lester Bucktrot, Ct. 1 — embezzlement, theft, and false accounts

Misdemeanors:

- Judy Coughran and Michael Watkins, Ct. 1 — knowingly concealing stolen property
- Sarah Barnett, Ct. 1 — battery

Education

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Association announces new scholarships

SISSETON, S.D. — The Association on American Indian Affairs announces two new scholarship programs: the AAIA/Florence Young Memorial Fellowship and the AAIA/Norman Crooks Memorial Scholarship.

The AAIA/Florence Young Memorial Fellowship was endowed by a gift from Young to the association through her will.

The AAIA/Norman Crooks Memorial Scholarship honors a man who helped his tribe rise from a time of hardship to prosperity. This undergraduate scholarship will be geared towards students who plan to return to their communities, both reservation and urban, upon graduation with intentions to help raise the standard of living within the community.

The scholarships already offered by AAIA are: the Sequoyah Graduate Fellowship, the AAIA/Adolph van Pelt Scholarship; the Displaced Homemakers Program; and the Emergency Aid and Health Professions Scholarship.

Executive Director Jerry Flute cautions students that "...much of the information about our scholarship programs on various internet sites is incorrect, including some of our deadline dates."

Get information directly from AAIA through: its web site www.indian-affairs.org; by e-mail at aaia@tnics.com; by writing P.O. Box 268, Sisseton, SD 57262; or call (605) 698-3998.

The association on American Indian Affairs is a national nonprofit 501(c)(3) association funded by contributions from the American people.

Tuition-free institute provides opportunities

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute is a tuition-free, two-year post high school institution providing books and on campus student housing and meals to qualifies Native Americans.

The school offers: associate of applied science degrees in accounting, business administration, computer science, electronics, graphic arts, optical technology, agricultural technologies, civil engineering, culinary arts, environmental science, natural resources, and semiconductor manufacturing; associate of arts degrees in liberal arts; and associate of science degrees in business administration and computer science.

The application requirements are: completion of the SIPI application; Certificate of Indian Blood card; high school transcript or GED scores; physical with immunization record; a $20 student activity fee; and a $205 damage deposit.

For an application packet and catalog: call 1-800-586-7474 ; or write 9169 Coors Road NW, P.O. Box 10146 Albuquerque, NM 87174 or see the web site www.sipi.bia.edu.

Tulsa University offers indigenous law degree

TULSA — The University of Tulsa College of Law is offering the first master's program in American Indian and Indigenous Law at American Bar Association approved law schools.

"American Indian and indigenous people face unique legal issues and this program will significantly enhance the skills of those people who represent them in the legal system," said G. William Rice, professor of law and the director of the L.L.M. program."

The objective of the L.L.M. in American Indian and indigenous law is to train U.S. lawyers and lawyers from around the world in issues critical to adequate understanding and representation of American Indian and other indigenous peoples.

The TU Native American law program, including the first Native American law certificate program offered in the nation, has been recognized for its quality and outstanding faculty through being named one of "The Best Law Schools for the Study of Indian Law," in the spring 1995 issue of Red Ink.

The repository for important and sometimes one-of-a-kind primary source materials related to Indian law and policy, including the papers of Samuel Worcester, TU offers access to tribal governments and court systems in northeastern Oklahoma.

For additional information on the program, contact Rice at (918) 631-2456 or the TU College of Law Admission Office at (918) 631-2406.

Program name	Receipts	Budgets	Encumbered	Expended	Balance
MCN LEGAL DEFENSE FUND	3,440.00	238,155.00	0.00	6,660.00	231,495.00
CN SALES TAX	5,038.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TREASURY	330,737.00	30,666.00	0.00	340,287.00	(309,621.00)
LITIGATION & LOBBYING	1,562.00	57,709.00	0.00	0.00	57,709.00
GENERAL TAXES & LICENSES	228,707.00	1,468,774.00	34,443.00	330,466.00	1,103,865.00
MOTOR FUEL TAXES	22,682.00	1,848,997.00	46,142.00	415,784.00	1,387,071.00
ADMINISTRATION/INDIRECT	507,054.00	2,109,433.00	14,011.00	516,531.00	1,578,891.00
CONSUMER LOANS	5,187.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CREEK NATION BINGO	818,304.00	3,397,175.00	44,788.00	1,024,473.00	2,327,914.00
CN PERMANENT FUND	648,973.00	96,421.00	12,589.00	20,276.00	63,556.00
TOM JOHNSON PERM FUND	(426,402.00)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
BOK SETTLEMENT	3,564.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CULTURAL PRESERVATION	485.00	1,000.00	260.00	225.00	515.00
HOLDENVILLE COMMUNITY	5,857.00	3,000.00	0.00	1,196.00	1,804.00
TRIBAL BUDGET	80,230.00	885,866.00	12,180.00	187,396.00	686,290.00
MOTOR VEHICLE	302,092.00	1,076,461.00	62,742.00	178,386.00	835,333.00
HEALTH EDUCATION	4,118.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
WIA-TITLE I	92,256.00	548,156.00	2,592.00	92,255.00	453,309.00
WIA-SUMMER YOUTH	7,940.00	107,351.00	940.00	8,370.00	98,041.00
WELFARE TO WORK	64,490.00	189,244.00	0.00	65,080.00	124,164.00
WELFARE TO WORK '99	3,990.00	121,690.00	0.00	3,990.00	117,700.00
HUD-MUSKOGEE TRAVEL PLAZA	(361.00)	702,621.00	0.00	0.00	702,621.00
HUD-NAHASDA '00	11,021,975.00	16,000,912.00	0.00	61,687.00	15,939,225.00
HUD-ROSS '01	0.00	250,000.00	0.00	0.00	250,000.00
HUD-NAHASDA '98	4,470,597.00	6,411,986.00	84.00	249,368.00	6,162,534.00
HUD-NAHASDA '99	7,510,657.00	8,876,015.00	21,547.00	398,743.00	8,455,725.00
LIHEAP '00	0.00	33,027.00	0.00	265.00	32,762.00
FAMILY PRESERVATION '00	54,382.00	191,763.00	1,693.00	55,407.00	134,663.00
CCDBG '00	351,647.00	433,463.00	3,229.00	356,343.00	73,891.00
HEAD START '00	285,335.00	927,452.00	504,045.00	287,478.00	135,929.00
TITLE IV-B '00	48,545.00	168,341.00	889.00	52,038.00	115,414.00
FAMILY VIOLENCE '00	44,915.00	218,571.00	2,115.00	45,185.00	171,271.00
LIHEAP '01	0.00	77,296.00	2,317.00	0.00	74,979.00
CCDBG '01	204,984.00	2,309,711.00	21,775.00	207,433.00	2,080,503.00
HEADSTART '01	46,029.00	0.00	311.00	46,375.00	(46,686.00)
CCDBG '99 MANDATORY	40,956.00	115,866.00	11,267.00	42,594.00	62,005.00
FOOD DISTRIBUTION '01	53,880.00	0.00	4,529.00	53,879.00	(58,408.00)
JOM EARLY CHILDHOOD	21.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
JOHNSON O'MALLEY	421.00	30,000.00	112.00	303.00	29,585.00
MCN CHILD DEV. CENTER	67,196.00	220,000.00	603.00	31,797.00	187,600.00
USDA HEADSTART REIMBURSE	7,235.00	0.00	12,200.00	6,027.00	(18,227.00)
EUFAULA DORM ACTIVITY FUND	15,499.00	22,453.00	0.00	0.00	22,453.00
ELECTION BOARD	184.00	950.00	0.00	0.00	950.00
COMMUNICATIONS REVOLVING	688.00	6,992.00	150.00	2,393.00	4,449.00
CITIZENSHIP BOARD	5,227.00	7,621.00	0.00	0.00	7,621.00
FOOD DIST. PROG. INCOME	300.00	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00
C.D. REVOLVING FUND	75.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
LIGHTHORSE PROG. INCOME	483.00	3,600.00	0.00	0.00	3,600.00
SELF-GOVERNANCE INTEREST	6,237.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PROVIDING OPP. WITH ALGEBRA	2,113.00	27,511.00	2,433.00	2,113.00	22,965.00
DOE-LIBRARY SERVICE BASIC	4,000.00	4,000.00	0.00	2,285.00	1,715.00
DOE-LIBRARY TECH GRANT	2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00	0.00	2,000.00
SELF-GOVERNANCE COMPACT	4,799,814.00	5,063,486.00	64,665.00	1,169,031.00	3,829,790.00
JOM-EARLY CHILDHOOD '00	4,544.00	1,579.00	0.00	0.00	1,579.00
JOHNSON O'MALLEY '00	314,006.00	265,220.00	2,778.00	111,085.00	151,357.00
DOI-ENVIRN CLEAN-UP	0.00	24,750.00	0.00	0.00	24,750.00
EUFAULA DORM '00	985,713.00	980,154.00	4,000.00	32,432.00	943,722.00
00 TRANSPORTATION IMPROV.	0.00	56,394.00	0.00	427.00	55,967.00
KELLYVILLE PROJECT	62,922.00	4,417,934.00	81,607.00	81,917.00	4,254,410.00
EUFAULA DORM '97	198,396.00	195,846.00	1,975.00	0.00	193,871.00
EUFAULA DORM '98	12,499.00	12,301.00	0.00	980.00	11,321.00
99 JOM EARLY CHILDHOOD	436.00	430.00	0.00	430.00	0.00
99 EUFAULA DORM	454,611.00	449,322.00	44,669.00	208,266.00	196,387.00
99 TRANSPORTATION IMPROV	586.00	20,781.00	0.00	491.00	20,290.00
MONTEZUMA PROJECT	0.00	64,296.00	2,800.00	13,200.00	48,296.00
CHILDREN'S ALLIANCE	14,987.00	14,987.00	1,044.00	3,687.00	10,256.00
WATER QUALITY	2,898.00	22,941.00	0.00	3,207.00	19,734.00
TRIBAL RESOURCES (COPS)	23.00	2,552.00	0.00	0.00	2,552.00
VICTIMS ASSISTANCE	0.00	40,000.00	0.00	1,564.00	38,436.00
JUVENILE DELINQUENCY	0.00	20,000.00	0.00	0.00	20,000.00
VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN	0.00	85,484.00	0.00	0.00	85,484.00
DRUG COURT	8,362.00	87,585.00	0.00	9,091.00	78,494.00
EPA	7,360.00	157,595.00	4,627.00	7,655.00	145,313.00
MUSKOGEE TRAVEL PLAZA	0.00	2,750,000.00	0.00	0.00	2,750,000.00
COMMUNITY CENTERS PROJ	1,349.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TRAVEL PLAZA ENTERPRISE	178,796.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TRIBAL AGRICULTURE PROG.	103.00	0.00	100.00	181.00	(281.00)
LIGHTHORSE SERVICES	73,400.00	171,400.00	2,860.00	66,639.00	101,901.00
MCN FLAGS & ETC	546.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
ROADS EQUIPMENT POOL	67,681.00	0.00	11,464.00	6,647.00	(18,111.00)
C.N. EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	8,174.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
C.N. TAXES & FRINGE	8,066.00	0.00	0.00	9,563.00	(9,563.00)
NEIL CAMPBELL SCHOLARSHIP	18.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
ROAD FORCE ACCOUNT	0.00	676,730.00	4,006.00	46,583.00	626,141.00
TRIBAL- REAL PROP & FAC.	838,844.00	2,301,977.00	140,956.00	373,290.00	1,787,731.00
TRIBAL- PROPERTY & SUPPLY	30,672.00	110,797.00	0.00	13,396.00	97,401.00
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS	115,986.00	63,855.00	0.00	0.00	63,855.00
SELF-INSURED HLTH FUND	310,205.00	0.00	0.00	372,346.00	(372,346.00)
C.N. FOUND. SCHOLARSHIP	997.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	(500.00)
EUFAULA DORM SCHOLARSHIP	7.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTALS	**35,457,525.00**	**67,281,645.00**	**1,187,537.00**	**7,625,696.00**	**58,468,412.00**

Muscogee (Creek) Nation quarterly financial statement

Quarter ending Dec. 31, 2000
Prepared by the office of the controller

In accordance with National Council Act 88-70, section 112, as amended by NCA 89-37, the following information for the period ending Dec. 31, 2000 discloses the receipts, budget, encumbrances, expenditures, and balance for all funds under the control of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

The **receipts** are dollar amounts received for the period ending Dec. 31, 2000. The figures include, but are not limited to, federal dollars received on grants or contracts, interest earned during the quarter, and revenues generated by the tribe. The total dollars spent represent the amount spent to date for the first quarter ending Dec. 31, 2000.

The **budget** figure represents the amounts approved in the comprehensive annual budget.

The **encumbered** amounts include figures derived from outstanding purchase orders at the end of the year.

Expended amounts state the total amount that has been spent for each department, within that fund.

The **balance** figures reflect the net available for each department at the end of Dec. 31, 2000.

Any questions regarding this report may be directed to the office of the controller at (918) 756-8700, ext. 250.

The Muscogee Nation News

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Norton speaks to tribes and Indian affairs committee

by Brian Stockes
Indian Country Today

WASHINGTON — Gale Norton, newly appointed secretary of Interior, has spent part of her first weeks on the job learning about and talking about tribal issues.

Secretary Norton addressed tribal leaders during a meeting of the National Congress of American Indians one week and testified before members of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs the next.

Norton, formerly the attorney general for Colorado, is charged with oversight and management of the BIA and a number of other programs within Interior which serve tribal governments and Indian people.

In both appearances, Norton reiterated support for tribal sovereignty and focused on Indian education and reform of tribal trust funds management.

"I take very seriously my responsibility as trustee for Indian lands, trust moneys and federal obligations to the tribes under treaties and laws," Norton said.

While Norton offered support of tribal sovereignty and self-government, she stressed education and tribal trust funds. President Bush had promised tribes in his campaign that he would replace six BIA schools and ask for $802 million to be budgeted toward repairs at other schools. Norton said that Congress had already appropriated $292 million to begin addressing problems in fiscal year 2001 and that Interior would immediately provide $136 million to replace the six BIA schools.

"President Bush and I will continue to work with Congress to eliminate the current backlog of school repairs by 2006, while replacing older more dilapidated schools," Norton said. "Schools with the most urgent needs will be given priority in the budget requests."

BIA and tribally controlled schools across the country have been plagued for years by under funding and dilapidated conditions. The BIA is responsible for 185 Indian elementary and secondary schools throughout the country. About one-third of them are operated directly by the BIA

please see **NORTON**..., page 3

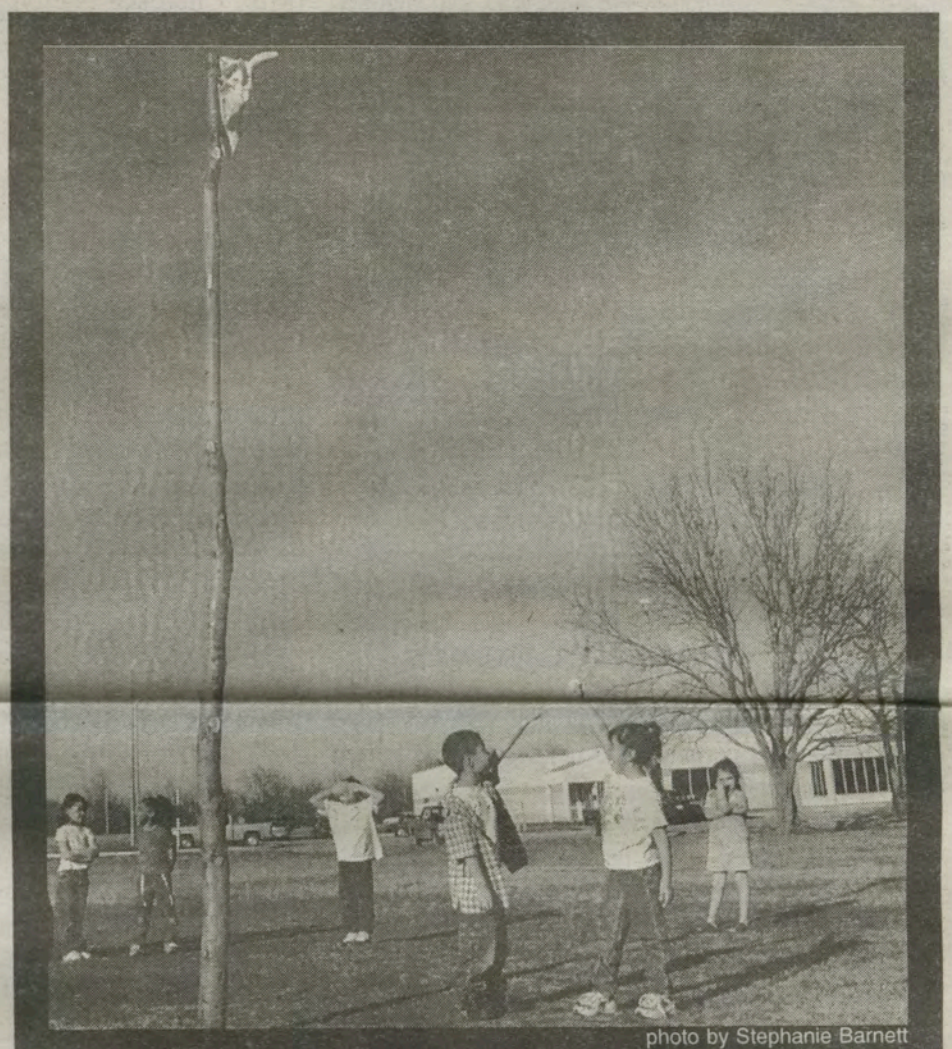


photo by Stephanie Barnett

Muscogee Nation Okmulgee Child Development Center's after school kids enjoy unseasonably ward weather with a game of pole ball. Pictured in the foreground are Christopher Crosley of Bristow and Robin Hicks of Hanna. In the background, left to right, are: Courtney Brown of Morris; Cheyenne Armour of Okmulgee; Nathan Checotah of Morris; and Makayla Paquin of Okmulgee

Muscogee People

Okemah boy preparing to participate in World Championship Horseshoe Tournament

by Gerald Wofford

Competition and sports are a big part of modern Muscogee culture. From softball to basketball to soccer, Muscogee youth are finding healthy outlets for the sport of their choice. Even older citizens past the adolescent age usually can find a "30 and over" sport tournament of some type to suit their fancy.

Tournaments are not just created for the sports listed above, but for other physical activities such as golf, bowling, and horseshoes.

From the game that allows its players just "close enough and you can still win" comes a young Muscogee champion from Okemah.

photo by Gerald Wofford

The Harjo family — Eric, Ramona, and Albert

On all accounts, Okemah Middle School student Erik Jon Harjo is a typical 15 year old, with the exception that he is the state horseshoe pitching champion in the junior division. The state champion title makes him eligible to participate in the World Championship Horseshoe Tournament to be held in Minnesota this June.

Erik's father, Albert — known as "Bobby" to most friends and relatives — got his son started in the sport. Started is probably not the correct term, perhaps motivated would be more accurate.

Individuals that are interested in offering monetary contributions to assist the Harjo family in attending the world championship tournament may call: (918) 623-0212.

"Erik would watch his father pitch and wanted to play against him," said Erik's mother, Ramona, "I told him 'don't get nervous while you're throwing; your father can be beat.'" The reason that Erik was so nervous about throwing is that his father is a state champion horseshoe pitcher himself.

But the competitive juices flowed and Erik found

please see **HARJO**..., page 3

Letters to the editor

Woman wants right to rebury her former husband

Editor:

I was married to Silas Johnson over 14 years. We were legally married by Bro. George Jesse of Sasakwa. He was a bachelor in his sixties and I was a widow 10 years older. He would not live at my home, so we lived at his family home east of Bowlegs.

He had been a diabetic since his thirties and progressively got worse. The last two years of his life he was in and out of hospitals. He had triple bypass heart surgery and nearly died in Oklahoma City. Six months later he had to have a pacemaker. He later had gall bladder surgery, prostate surgery, and eventually had to have his right leg amputated. After losing his leg he had to have around the-clock care and medications for many things. My health was failing as I had severe breast cancer surgery.

He was admitted to a nursing center at Wewoka. Because of department of human services technicalities, I had to file for a divorce so he would be able to get into the nursing home.

A few years after our marriage, we were talking about deaths — where and what, etc. I had purchased a double marker for me and my late husband — Louis J. King. Silas was my late husband's second cousin and he loved and respected him very much. He said he would like to be buried next to Louis and I, that he did not want to be buried at his old family grave site as it was way down in the woods and at most times not accessible by car. In 1988 I purchased a monument for him and it was erected it in the King Family Cemetery. Silas died last November. His previous will gave a niece the responsibility of burying. I thought they would honor his desires of where to be buried. He certainly did not want to be buried where he was interred.

Do I have the right to move his body where he, I, and others knew he was to be buried? I have many witnesses and testimonies — my church people and friends know this and would testify to this truth. Because I was forced to get a divorce, I was not permitted to sit in the family pew at his funeral. I was not mentioned in the obituary. I was not approached or called about his burial, clothes, and things. He was never divorced from my heart and soul and I took care of him until the end. He seemingly had no one else who cared but me — I cared very much for him and I know he loved me.

We were married after he had written his will. There was nothing written about where to bury him. He and I discussed this matter and were settled in our minds and hearts about this. Do I have the God given rights to move him where his tombstone is? I would have buried

please see **LETTERS**..., page 3

Miss Mvskoke Nation having busy reign

After being crowned Miss Mvskoke Nation on June 11 of last year, my rein began by attending the 26th Annual Creek Nation Festival and Rodeo.

August

Roberts

In August, I travelled to Tahlequah to attend the Miss Cherokee Nation pageant where I met 1999 Junior Miss Cherokee Nation Raven Bruner, 1999 Miss Cherokee Nation Janelle Adair, and 2000-2001 Miss Cherokee Nation Michelle No Fire. Later that month I participated in the American Indian Exposition Parade in Anadarko. I also attended the Intertribal Indian Club of Tulsa Pow Wow. While there I met 2000 Junior Miss Indian Oklahoma Tara Damron.

September

In September I returned to Tahlequah for the Cherokee Holiday Parade. I attended the Miss Seminole Nation pageant and met 1999 Miss Seminole Nation Shema Yearby and 2000-2001 Miss Seminole Nation Kymberly Diona Cravatt. I also returned to the town where I graduated from high school — Weleetka — for its annual Pride Day celebration.

October

In October I offered my assistance at the Creek Council House Museum's art auction; I helped show the many pieces of art offered for auction throughout the evening. The tribe hosted the quarterly session of the Five Civilized Tribes Inter-Tribal Council at the Adams Mark Hotel in Tulsa. While there I met the Cherokee Nation Principal Chief Chad Smith and Seminole Nation Principal Chief Jerry Haney.

November

In November I attended the Junior Miss and Miss Indian Oklahoma pageants where I was able to see 2000 Miss Indian Oklahoma Julia Noel and Junior Miss Indian Oklahoma Tara Damron complete their reign. I also made the acquaintance of 2001 Miss Indian Oklahoma Tonya Still — a young Cherokee woman who I have enjoyed getting to know as our paths crossed during our respective engagements.

December

In December I visited Creek Nation Community Hospital patients and met many staff members. Allen

please see **MISS MVSKOKE**..., page 3

Second opinion

by Second Chief A.D. Ellis

Hello friends and fellow Muscogee.

It's that time again. The smell of wild onions and eggs fill the air on Saturdays as well as the voices of the many people enjoying the fellowship of being together again.

Ellis

I am sure this is one of our customs that we will never loose. My wife, Gail, and I always enjoy the wild onion dinners. As usual, Salt Creek Methodist Church's dinner was a big success.

I also attended a dinner and fund-raiser at the Tribal Towns Center in Okemah. We enjoyed the friendly atmosphere and the bingo games.

On Feb. 26th and 27, I attended the Bureau of Indian Affairs Law Enforcement Budget Conference with tribal Lighthorse Administration Chief Marsey Scott in Albuquerque, N.M. We attended these meetings to lobby and state our needs as a tribal nation to aid in law enforcement. A detention center for adults is a high priority at this time.

A big congratulations is extended to the Dustin Boys Basketball Team for their very successful year and to all the other Muscogee athletes who compete for their schools — good job.

Another topic to mention is the effort to hold a Constitutional convention this year. I have requested and received all information from the attorney general's office and am having the preliminary work prepared to present to the National Council to get things moving. I am sure we will have public hearings if this is pursued, so keep an interest.

Quote of the month — "The greatest success comes not from money, power, or fame, but from a happy marriage, a happy family, and a happy home."

Mvto

The Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News *is the official* publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to ***The Muscogee Nation News***, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of every month.** ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Standard Class A from Okmulgee, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

Stephanie Barnett, managing editor
Gerald Wofford, photography
Denise Jacobs, page layout
Jennifer Taryole, circulation

Muscogee National Council overview

OKMULGEE — The following consists of actions of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council conducted at the February 24 regular session.

Speaker **Wilbur Gouge**, McIntosh District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

In Council business it:

• approved unanimously (24-0) National Council Resolution 01-01, confirming the nomination of Waukomis L. Lewis to serve on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health Systems Board. Lewis fills the unexpired term of Carney Roberts. The term ends on July 29, 2002;

Lewis is a tribal citizen residing in Claremore;

• approved unanimously (24-0) NCR 01-02, confirming the nomination of Brent Oliver Hale Jr, M.D. to serve on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health Systems Board. Hale fills the unexpired term of Beatrice Sanders. The term ends on Oct. 29, 2002;

Hale is a tribal citizen residing in Norman; and

• killed unanimously (24-0) NCA 01-23, appropriating funds to advertise for bids to demolish the old Sapulpa Head Start building and to construct a new Head Start center at the same location in Sapulpa. The bill was tabled during the December and January regular sessions of the Council.

Letters

continued from page 2

him myself if his family would have let me. He was a good, honest, and dependable person and deserves his wishes.

Letha King, Bowlegs

Michigan man looking for Army buddy

Editor:

I am looking for a Donald Harjo; his is around 67 years of age, tribe unknown. He was from Oklahoma. He served in the U.S. Army with me in 1957. We were stationed in Irwin, Penn. at a nike site. He was a clerk for 1st Sgt. Arrowood.

My intent is to have a reunion with him — I can travel to Oklahoma. If he is deceased I would appreciate it if his relatives or friends would write me a short note with the information. Me address is 25335 Pattow, Roseville MI 48066-5742.

Frank Smagghe, Roseville, Mich.

Family appreciates provision of transportation

Editor:

I would like to express my family's gratitude to Evelyn Yargee McLemore for providing us with the transportation to make our trip to Moundville, Ala.

Without her assistance, we wouldn't have been able to attend the ceremony at the Moundville Native American Festival that honored the late Tema and Hazel Bucktrot Tiger.

It meant a lot to us to attend this memorial dedication. *Mvto.*

Amy Yargee, Seminole

February district court filings

Small Claims:

• Ford Motor Credit Co. vs. Leandra Schunk, foreign judgement

Protective Orders:

• Margie Wright vs. William Wright

• Sandra Aynes vs. Michael Aynes Sr.

Criminal felony:

• Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Carl West Jr., embezzlement

Criminal misdemeanor:

• Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Jacqueline R. Fox, Battery

Divorce:

• Patsy Ann Scrimshire vs. Thomas L. Scrimshire

Employee Protection Act:

• Jan L. McLain

Miss Mvskoke

continued from page 2

Wind, health systems administrator, graciously gave me a tour of the hospital and clinic.

February

In February Williams Communications Group, Inc., in Tulsa, held a Native Heritage day for its employees. I, along with Miss Indian Oklahoma Tonya Still, Chickasaw Princess Tonya Loper, Junior Chickasaw Princess LaTasha Johnson, Chickasaw Little Miss Tesia Worcester, Junior Miss Choctaw Crystal Wesley and Little Miss Seminole Nation Chassy Sky Foster performed the Lord's Prayer in Indian sign language for its employees. In late February, I performed the Lord's Prayer in Indian sign language with some of the same girls — Chickasaw Princess Tonya Loper and Junior Miss Choctaw Crystal Wesley — at an Indian tourism conference held in McAlester.

I am preparing to attend the state Johnson O'Malley conference being held in Oklahoma City this month and in April I will be travelling to Albuquerque, N.M. for the Miss Indian World Pageant and the Gathering of Nations.

In the near future I, as well as my mother, Lerena — who has tirelessly accompanied me — plan on visiting Muscogee Nation elderly nutrition centers as well as child development centers.

photo by Genie Reid

Miss Mvskoke Nation Sunny Roberts, Little Miss Choctaw Jill Williams, and Chickasaw Princess Tonya Loper at an Indian tourism conference in March.

Norton

continued from page 1

while the remainder operate under contract or grants to Indian tribal entities. The schools have an enrollment of approximately 50,000 children in 23 states.

Reform of tribal trust management was characterized as a "very high priority" by Norton who said providing needed services to Indian trust beneficiaries was of critical importance. Interior has had numerous problems, legal and administrative, dealing with data and records for billions of dollars in tribal trust assets.

"As a trustee, I clearly recognize the important obligations of the department to put in place those systems, procedures and people to fulfill our obligation to the trust beneficiaries, both individual Indians and tribes," Norton said. "This is an enormous undertaking in correcting the errors and omissions of many decades."

Norton did not give specifics on the overall budget for Indian programs or if there would be any cuts. However, she did say some "priorities" would be set.

Norton was warmly received by tribal leaders at NCAI. Many remarked how they appreciated her willingness to talk with them so early after taking office. Others noted her promise to employ "consultation, cooperation, and communication" in working with tribal governments.

"I was very encouraged by her words on consultation," said Robert Chicks, chairman of the Stockbridge-Munsee tribe in Wisconsin.

Members of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs said they were encouraged by Norton's words regarding tribal issues. A number of other senators were present as she outlined her early agenda and goals.

"I am gratified by her very high commitment to Indian issues and look forward to working with her," said John McCain, R-Ariz.

Asked when she would appoint a new assistant secretary for Indian Affairs, Norton said that most likely will take a number of months.

Before her election as Colorado attorney general in 1991, Norton served as associate solicitor for Interior, overseeing endangered species and public lands legal issues for the National Park Service and the Fish and Wildlife Service. She also worked as assistant to the deputy secretary of Agriculture and, from 1979 to 1983, as a senior attorney for the Mountain States Legal Foundation.

Harjo

continued from page 1

himself defeating his father. The family began to support his Erik's talent for pitching by entering him in local tournaments initially. Confidence gained as the result of his wins prepared Erik to enter the junior division state tournament. He defeated the reigning champion by a score of 63-0.

Erik, who is rather shy when talking about his accomplishments, greatly credits his mother and father for supporting him by taking him to horseshoe tournaments all over the area.

Erik belongs to the Wind Clan and Nuyaka Ceremonial Ground. He is the grandson of Pat and Simeon Johnson of Okemah and the late Albert Harjo and Betty Butler Scott, Okmulgee. He is the great-grandson of Christine Henneha of Okemah.

Wildlife habitat incentives program sign-up

OKMULGEE — Landowners will have the opportunity to sign-up for cost-share assistance through the Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program through March 23

It is a voluntary conservation program for landowners that want to develop and improve wildlife habitat on private lands. It provides technical assistance in developing a wildlife plan and up to 75 percent cost-share assistance to help establish fish and wildlife habitat.

Examples of conservation practices available for cost-share funds include tree and shrub plantings, conservation buffers, and fishpond management. Practices must be a part of an approved wildlife habitat management plan.

Landowners sign agreements with the USDA generally lasting a minimum of five years and not to exceed 10 years from the date it is signed. The landowner agrees to maintain the cost-shared practices and allow the USDA to monitor the effectiveness of the practices. The Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation and the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service will assist in the ranking of applications and development of the habitat plans.

Funding for the program was not available in 2000 following two successive years of funding in 1998 and 1999. Congress included an appropriation for the WHIP in the Agriculture Risk Protection Act of 2000.

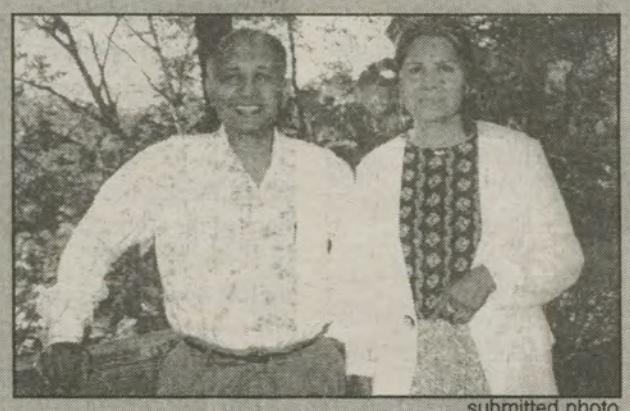
Applications for the program can be made at the office of the United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resource Conservation Services Tribal Conservationist Lester Ligon.

Ligon's office is located in the Muscogee Nation Human Development Building on the tribal capitol complex. Ligons' phone number is (918) 756-8700, ext. 617.

Late citizen and husband author book on Muscogee values

LOS ANGELES — "A Sacred Path: The Way of the Muscogee Creeks" by Jean and Joyotpaul Chaudhuri was recently published by UCLA-American Indian Studies Center.

A good section of the book deals with the content and the logic of traditional Muscogee (Creek) Indian values. It also includes content on: the cosmology; the creation legend; the social contract legend; gender relations; astronomy; clan formation; government and authority; leadership; medicine; magic; history; and interethnic relations. The book is the result of decades of oral history work and analysis.



submitted photo

Joyotpaul and the late Jean Hill Chaudhuri

The late Jean Hill Chaudhuri belonged to the Bear Clan and was the daughter of the Bird Clan. She was a well-recognized community leader and organizer, writer/speaker, tribal oral historian, and storyteller. Her interviews over many decades of work were in Oklahoma and the southeastern U.S. as well; she also assisted the Doris Duke Oral History Project at the University of Florida. She received the Jefferson Medal for Public Service in a ceremony in the U.S. Supreme Court Building in 1977.

Chaudhuri is a professor of political science at Arizona State University whose academic background is in comparative and political philosophy. He has been involved in American Indian issues since the 1950s.

He has been associated with American Indian studies programs at several universities including the University of Arizona and the University of South Dakota. He has taught at the University of Oklahoma; the University of Central Oklahoma; Florida State University, New Mexico State University; and Kent State University.

The book (ISBN 0-935626-54-9) may be ordered for $15 plus shipping costs from: UCLA-American Indian Studies Center, 3220 Campbell Hall, Box 951548, Los Angeles, CA 90095. The book is carried at Borders and may also be ordered from: Small Press — 1 (800) 869-7553; Book People — 1 (800) 999-4650; or Amazon.com.

Social services announces field site dates

OKMULGEE — Muscogee Nation Social Services Department is accepting applications for general assistance at field sites in Eufaula, Holdenville, Muskogee, Okemah, and Sapulpa.

The field sites and dates are:

- Holdenville Indian Community Center, 224 E. Poplar — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., April 3 and 17;
- Muscogee Indian Community Center, 111 S. Virginia — applications will be accepted from 1 to 3 p.m., April 3;
- Okemah Indian Community Center, 1100 S. Woody Guthrie St. — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., April 4 and 18;
- Eufaula Indian Community Center, 800 Forest Ave. — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., April 5 and 19; and
- Sapulpa Indian Health Center, 1125 E. Cleveland — applications will be accepted from 1 to 3 p.m., April 5 and 19.

Tribal Towns' Center Organization meeting

OKEMAH — The Tribal Towns' Center Organization will hold its monthly meeting on April 12.

Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at the Tony Hill Tribal Town Center located at 118 Elm St.

Its March calendar includes:

- 7 p.m., March 23 — cultural preservation meeting, Elise Berryhill and Mary Lee, Muscogee Nation Health Administration;
- March 24 — Richard Harjo Family benefit bingo for funeral expenses; and
- March 31 — Mallory Bible's benefit bingo for Okemah High School Estecate Club trip to Six Flags.

Honor guard holding monthly meetings

HENRYETTA — Mvskoke Nation Honor Guard is holding its upcoming monthly meeting at 10 a.m., April 14 at Henryetta Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 530.

Its meetings are held on the second Saturday of each month. For meeting locations each month, call Vice Commander Timmy Thompson or Commander Thomas Yahola at (918) 756-8700, ext. 602 and ext. 272.

Community hospital holding health fair

OKEMAH — Creek Nation Community Hospital is holding a health fair on April 20.

Special services offered include: mammograms; eye clinic; women's health; smoking cessation; diabetic clinic; and ultrasound. Children's activities include: face painting; games; and door prizes.

The health fair will provide the following tests free: blood pressure; blood sugar; fat analysis; peak flow; and pulmonary function. The fair will also have: an educational program on car seat safety; immunizations; a hospital tour; and cardiopulmonary resuscitation classes. Door prizes will be given away and refreshments will be available.

The hospital is located at 309 N. 14th. For more information on booths, contact Meggin Bean or Sheryl Sharber at (918) 623-2005.

Albuquerque Warriors Tournament being held

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — Albuquerque Warriors is holding 16 women's and 32 men's teams all-Indian, double elimination tournament during the gathering of the Nations Pow Wow on April 27 through 29.

The requirements are: participants be at least one-fourth degree Indian; provision of a $200 entry fee per team; 10 players per team; and the provision of a $100 deposit by the April 7 deadline. No personal checks will be accepted. No refund of deposit will be given.

The tournament will be held at Highland High school located at 4700 Coal S.E.

For more information, contact Jimmy Yepa at: (505) 830-0576; or write to 2613 Dakota N.E., Apt. 17#, Albuquerque, NM 87110.

Haskell class of 61 holding 40th reunion

LAWRENCE, Kan. — Haskell Institute graduates of 1961 are holding their 40th class reunion in conjunction with homecoming weekend to be held Oct. 12 through 14.

All 1961 high school and postgraduates (commercial and vocational) of Haskell Institute and other alumni are encouraged to attend the class of 61 reunion activities.

For a complete 1961 40th reunion information packet, call or write: Dempsey Micco, (785)842-8945 or write P.O. Box 4175, Lawrence, KS 66046; or Flo Tanner Spottedbird, (918) 342-6403 or write 25078 S. 4205 Road, Inola, OK 73046.

Self-published Haskell memories book available

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — A book of Haskell memories 2000 is now being offered by members of the New Mexico Haskell club.

The 127 page book of memories, written by the alumni, includes republication of 36 pages of five volumes of the 1940 Indian Leader.

"What was life like on Haskell campus 50, 60, and 70 years ago? Students who were there tell it like it was," said book editor Gene Leitka.

Memories include Louise Baker's description of academic programs and life among the faculty during the 1930s and 1940s. Baker was a teacher and department head of the commercial department for over 40 years.

The book includes biographical sketches and photos of six members of the New Mexico Haskell Club who were selected as National Outstanding Haskell Alumnus during the last three decades.

To order the book, send $20 to: Haskell Memories 2000, 3420 Black Hills Road N.E., Albuquerque, NM 87111-5406.

Girl's poetry selected to be published

WELEETKA — McGregor Publishing has selected the poetry of Sarah Taylor, a Weleetka High School student, to be published in the Annual High School Poetry Anthology.

The judges and editorial board reviewed more than 5,100 entries and accepted a small percentage for publication.

The anthology is scheduled for publication on April 15. Previous editions have been fully subscribed to at publication by libraries and educational institutions throughout the country.

Taylor is the daughter of Larry and Elizabeth Taylor of Weleetka.

Okmulgee student scores well on ACT

OKMULGEE — Amber Zafar, a student at Okmulgee High School recently scored a 24 on her ACT exam.

She has received awards in: academic letter; honor roll; who's who; and student of the month; and first place in extemporaneous writing.

Zafar

Zafar's activities include: pom pon; Health Occupations Students of America; class president; and historian.

Zafer plans to attend Northeastern State University in Tahlequah to pursue a career in optometry.

She is the daughter of Mandy and Jim Zafar.

Yeager Head Start observes safety awareness

YEAGER — Yeager Head Start observed Safety Awareness Week. with a presentation by Muscogee Nation Lighthorse Officer Washington Cummings in February.

Washington talked to the children about seat belt safety. He left each of the children a booklet — "Lessons from Indian Country" — which included traditional and comic stories, fun activities, and tips for kids.

The children toured Wewoka Dental clinic in February also. They were educated on the importance of daily dental hygiene and eating healthy foods.

Applications being accepted for program

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee Nation Summer Youth Employment Program will be accepting applications from March 21 through May 3.

Applications will be taken at 1:30 p.m. on Wednesdays.

Applicants must provide the documentation at the time of application: a Certificate Degree of Indian Blood card; Social Security card; proof of income for the past six months (i.e., salary from employment, Social Security, Aid to Families with Dependent Children, and financial aid, etc.); verification of residence within Muscogee Nation boundaries; proof of selective service registration for males ages 18 ann or over; copy of high school transcript, high school diploma, or GED; college students must bring copy of college transcript and documentation of financial aid; documentation proving that applicant will be 16 years of age by June 4 and not older that turn 22 years of age before July 27; a copy of an Indian Health Service card verifying chart number or private insurance card and name of physician.

College students that will be returning home for the summer, but are unavailable to complete the application, are requested to call the JTPA office so alternate arrangements can be made.

Information booklets that contain further information about the program will be available at the schools and tribal community centers. For more information, call the Job Training Partnership Act office at (918) 756-8700 or 1-800-482-1979, ext. 620.

Okmulgee JOM students attend senior career/college day

MUSKOGEE — Five Okmulgee High School Johnson O'Malley program students recently attended a college/career day coordinated by the Muscogee Nation JOM Program in early March.

They visited Muskogee High School's career lab and Bacone College.

"A special thank you is extended thanks to the Okmulgee community center for the use of their van and a special thank you is offered to Okmulgee High School Principal Phil Garland and counselor Catherine Umstead for their assistance," said JOM Coordinator Tammy Lewis.

photo by Gerald Wofford

Pictured, left to right, front row — Willie Lewis; Kina Leybas, JOM chair; Tammy Lewis, JOM coordinator; and Denise Nuttle; and back row — Carl Lee, Kevin Foley; and Kim Reagan.

Program accepting requests for applications

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee Nation Higher Education Department is accepting application requests for the 2000-01 academic year.

Students should meet the following requirements to be eligible: possess a Certificate Degree of Indian Blood and Muscogee Nation tribal membership cards; be planning to attend an accredited two-year junior college or four-year university; and apply for federal financial aid at a college or university and complete the FAFSA form to be eligible for the Bureau of Indian Affairs Higher Education Grant.

Current grade reports must be submitted to receive an application.

Applications will be mailed through May 31. The closing date to apply for the Self Governance Higher Education grant is June 1. The tribal grant application closing date is June 15.

Continuing students must have submitted current grade reports or transcripts and met requirements to receive a renewal form. The renewal forms were mailed March 1 and must be returned by June 1.

For more information, contact the Muscogee Nation Higher Education office at (918) 756-8700 or 1-800-482-1979, ext. 614, 615, or 616.

Forum running Indian journalism institute

VERMILLION, S.D. — The Freedom Forum will fund and run an academic journalism program for American Indian college students this summer and The University of South Dakota will award six semester hours of credit to graduates of the month-long course.

The American Indian Journalism Institute will offer 25 college-level Native American students the opportunity to train as newspaper reporters, editors, and photographers. The institute will be held June 3 through 29 at the University of South Dakota. Students must be in college or college-bound. High school graduates in spring 2001 are eligible.

The Freedom Forum Neuharth Center will pay all costs, including tuition, fees, room and board, and it will give students who successfully complete the program an $800 scholarship/stipend. The six-hour college-level course is sanctioned through the university's department of contemporary media and journalism, a nationally-credited journalism department. Students may apply to transfer the credits to other schools where they are enrolled.

Follow-up programs for institute graduates include possible paid internships at daily newspapers, further schooling, and eventual job placement.

Dennis McAuliffe Jr., a Freedom Forum diversity fellow, University of Montana journalism professor, and member of the Native American Journalist Association, calls the summer institute "the most significant journalism program ever directed at American Indian college students. It will fill a huge void in Indian Country."

The American Indian Journalism Institute will be the first chance for many tribal college students to study journalism, he said. Their schools typically lack journalism classes and school newspapers, the most common route to journalism careers.

please see **EDUCATION...**, page 6

Sequoyah High School holds Kenneth Johnson Day

photo by Gerald Wofford

Muscogee-Seminole silversmith Kenneth Johnson was honored at Sequoyah High School with Kenneth Johnson Day held in February. Johnson, a 1984 graduate of the Tahlequah school, displayed his metalwork and talked to the youth about his art.

Pictured left to right are: Kayla Naktema; Carnelle Chosa; Dariene Lazore; gifted and talented class coordinator Margaret Gourd; Aubrey Whaler; and Amanda McKee. Kenneth Johnson is seated in the foreground.

Birthdays

Girl celebrates with Chuck-E-Cheese party

TULSA—Dria Nicole Phillips celebrated her seventh birthday on March 2 at Chuck-E-Cheese with a host of family and friends.

Phillips

She is the daughter of Stephanie Harry of Tulsa and Roy Phillips Jr. of Lawton. She has one brother, Nathaniel Phillips of Lawton.

Her maternal grandparents are Virgil Harry and the late Joan Harry, Mounds.

Her paternal grandparents are Roy Phillips Sr. of Lawton and Thomasine Schlienz of Okmulgee.

Her great-grandmother is Martha Phillips of Lawton.

She belongs to the Wind Clan.

Shawnee girl to celebrate April birthday

HOLDENVILLE — Nicole B. Withers will celebrate her third birthday on April 21 at the home of her great-grandparents.

Withers

She will turn three on April 22.

She is the daughter of Michael and Barbara Withers of Shawnee.

Her maternal grandparents are Lucy and the late Archie Sewell of Holdenville.

Her paternal grandparents are Bob and Betty Withers of Bowlegs.

Her great-grandmother is the late Lillian Scott of Holdenville. She is the great-granddaughter of Woodrow and Betty Stringfellow and the great-great granddaughter of Opal Johnson, all of Holdenville.

Achievement/recognition

Citizen advances to regional competition

TULSA — Mike "Lightning" Cooper won the heavy weight championship in boxing on Jan. 19 and 20.

Cooper

Although his Jan. 20 opponent outweighed him by 160 pounds, he won the bout, on his way to winning the title.

During the previous week, Cooper won a state championship in boxing in Oklahoma City.

Cooper now advances to a regional contest in Muskogee, then to Las Vegas for a $50,000 prize purse in the "Toughest of Tough Men."

He is the son of the late Ben Eldon Cooper Sr. and Alice Mae Jack Cooper.

Muskogee citizen to release album

TAHLEQUAH — John Yafke Timothy has spent the past year working in the Cimarron Sound Lab recording studio with Cherokee musician Lisa LaRue on their soon-to-be released album.

Timothy

Timothy has been working with LaRue and producer/engineer Jeff Parker in what he calls "...a prolific blend of native flute, keyboards and guitar." He describes the forthcoming album as being in the "world music" genre with traces of progressive rock stylings.

LaRue also holds the distinction as being the first full-blooded Native American female ever signed to a major record label. LaRue had been looking for a traditional Indian flute player. She became familiar with Timothy's work through seeing several of his performances. Timothy's most recent performance was during a celebration of Native American heritage inside at Oklahoma State Capital Building.

"This music is a celebration of our commitment to preserving and sharing our culture with the world," Timothy said. "The Native American flute is a great communicator — a storyteller. Because many people can no longer understand the poetic words spoken in the many languages of our nation's orators, the native flute acts as a voice understood by all."

Timothy's last album was a the 1997 self-produced "Songs of Cedar."

Timothy is employed as Bacone College's Ataloa Museum director. He belongs to the Wind Clan and Koweta Tribal Town and resides in Muscogee.

Late Maskoke and Yuchi elders honored

MOUNDVILLE, Ala. — The Moundville Native American Festival honored the late Tema and Hazel Bucktrot Tiger at this year's festival.

Tema Tiger, Seminole-Creek and Hazel Bucktrot Tiger, full-blood Yuchi, were honored by the Moundville director Betsy Jones. "These were two unique people and they will be truly missed," said Jones during the ceremony.

Mr. Tiger was *helishayv* and member of Fish Pond Ceremonial Ground and Mrs. Tiger was a member of the Sand Creek Yuchi Ceremonial Ground.

Pictures of the Tigers Tema and Hazel were displayed at the ceremony and in the Moundville Museum throughout the day of the festival.

A newly built nature trail displays a tree dedicated to their memory. The tree is marked with a bronze plaque with the engravement, "In the memory of Hazel and Tema Tiger."

The Yargee Family

Jones presented the family of Tema and Hazel Tiger with a Yaupon Holly — one of the first plants to be used by the southeastern Americans Indians.

Family members attending were: Amy, Tarpie, Shawn, and Esther Yargee; Joshua Roberts; Cynda Factor; Mitch Jack; and Evelyn and Arlen Bucktrot.

Education

continued from page 5

The American Indian Journalism Institute is an outgrowth of the Freedom Forum's recent multimillion dollar commitment to increase employment diversity at daily newspapers. "Improving diversity — having just one Native American working in a newsroom — makes a newspaper more aware of Indians in its community, and more sensitive and intelligent in reporting stories about them," said Jack Marsh, director of The Freedom Forum Neuharth Center at the University of South Dakota.

American Indians are by far the most under represented people of color in the news media and stereotypical and erroneous newspaper coverage of Indian issues and Indian people shows it, said McAuliffe. Estimates of the number of Native Americans working at daily newspapers range up to about 300 — out of more than 55,000 journalists nationwide.

Each student will have a single room in a dormitory. Meals will be provided on campus. Child care and some on-campus family housing are available.

Participants may be nominated by educators, mentors or other interested parties Nominations should be made in the form of a letter addressed to: Jack Marsh, director, Freedom Forum Neuharth Center, University of South Dakota, Vermillion, S.D. 57069.

Nominations letters should include brief explanations of why nominees should be accepted into the institute and how they can be contacted. Nominees then will be invited to provide further information about themselves and an example of their writing, such as an essay about why they want to attend. Self-nominations also are welcome. Nomination letters should be received by May 1.

Students should be able to provide proof of tribal enrollment or lineage, if requested.

For further information, call Jack Marsh, director, Freedom Forum Neuharth Center, at (605) 677-6315, or e-mail jmarsh@freedomforum.org or McAuliffe at (406) 243-2191 or e-mail dmcauliffe@freedomforum.org.

OU conference focuses on student retention

OKLAHOMA CITY — A national conference addressing college retention and graduation issues among Native Americans and Alaskan Native will be held April 11 through 13 at the University of Oklahoma.

The sixth annual RETAIN (Retention in Education Today for All Indigenous Nations) conference, "Diversifying Educational Pathways for Indigenous Peoples," will be held on the OU Health Sciences Center campus in Oklahoma City and the university's Norman campus.

The registration fee for the three-day conference is $295. The fee is $65 for students and elders over 60.

To receive a brochure or for more information, call 1-800-522-0772, ext. 2249. To register on-line go to www.conferencespros.com/Retain/retain.htm.

WANDA BARRETT

WELEETKA — Funeral services for Wanda Mae Barrett were held Feb. 5 at Christ Community Church with Revs. Duke Britt and Archie Warren officiating.

She was born July 30, 1937 in Pawnee to Daniel and Dora Mae Pack Fish. She died Feb. 1 at St. Francis Hospital.

Barrett married Henry Beaver on Oct. 14, 1955 in Eufaula. She enjoyed visiting the Cornerstone Church in Weleetka with her sister, Connie, and the Freewill Holiness Church in Dewar with Margaret Hamra. She liked singing, fishing, gardening, and cooking.

Preceding her in death were: her parents; brothers, Jacob, Arthur, and Charles Fish; and sisters, Nancy Stapp, Margaret Wright, Ellen Fish, and Opal Fish.

She is survived by: her husband of the home; sons, Henry Ray Barrett, Jr. of Okmulgee, Paul Wayne Barrett of the home, Daniel Carniel Barrett of Henryetta; daughters, Debbie Lee Henley of Henryetta, Mona Faye Hulbur of Rockdale, Ill.; sister, Josephine Wright of Dustin; 15 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers were: Mark Sumka; Henry Ray Barrett; Johnny Dunn; Tim Ferguson; Charles Wright; and Art Halbur.

Honorary pallbearers were: Willie Murphy Jr.; Michael Belmer; David Wright; and Ed Wright.

Interment was at Barrett Family Cemetery.

EDITH CROWELS

WETUMKA — Funeral services for Edith Crowels were held Jan. 22 at Wetumka Indian Baptist Church with Revs. Alec Buck, J.B. Fish, and Newman Crowels officiating.

She was born March 18, 1922 in Wetumka to Freeman and Katie John Crowels and died Jan. 18 at her home in Tulsa.

Crowels grew up in the Wetumka area and attended Mingo School. Following graduation from the Wetumka schools, she relocated to Chicago Ill. where she married and made her home for many years.

She was a homemaker and had also worked in the dry cleaning business. In 1982 she returned to Oklahoma and settled in Tulsa.

Crowels was a long time member of Wetumka Indian Baptist Church. She enjoyed cooking and sewing. Edith was known for her benevolence and willingness to help others. She regularly nursed stray animals to good health and often kept them for pets when she could not find homes for them.

Crowels was preceded in death by: her parents; her husband; and three brothers, Newman, Richard, and Amos.

She is survived by: a sister, Sally Wenner of Oklahoma City; two sisters-in-law, Nora Crowels of Sapulpa and Millie Crowels Scott of Yeager; Alfred Womack of Tulsa; and many other relatives.

Pallbearers were: Steve Reed; Freddie Crowels; David Crowels; Newman Crowels; Steve Crowels; and Gary Critzer.

Interment was at Wetumka Baptist Church Cemetery.

SOLOMON FIELD

OKEMAH — Funeral services for Solomon Field were held Feb. 22 at Springfield United Methodist Church with Revs. James Smith and Edwin Jimboy officiating.

He was born April 14, 1925 in Okemah to William Field and Louvina Harjo Field. He died Feb. 19 in Oklahoma City.

Field served in the United States Navy during World War II. He belonged to Springfield United Methodist Church.

He is survived by: his wife, Frances, of the home; son, Daryl Field of Del City; daughter, Deanna Field of Oklahoma City; stepdaughter, Martha Ann Harjo of Oklahoma City; two grandchildren who were raised in the home, Victoria Field of Spencer, and Paul Field of Arcadia; seven other grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and many relatives and friends.

Interment was at the Scott Cemetery in Okemah.

JAMES JACOBS

HENRYETTA — Funeral services for James Edward Jacobs were held Feb. 23 at Hickory Grounds No. 2 Baptist Church with Revs. Aaron Sonny Braswell and Mitchell Taylor officiating.

Jacobs was born Dec. 10, 1963 at Henryetta to Joseph and Emma Billie Jacobs. He died Feb. 18.

He was attending Oklahoma State University-Okmulgee to become a baker. He liked to bead, fish, and cook.

Preceding him in death were: two infant sisters; nephews, Charles Jacobs and David Lee Jacobs; uncles, Samuel Jacobs, Timothy Jacobs, Jake Joseph Jacobs and Joe Billie.

Survivors include: his parents of Henryetta; five brothers, Paul Jacobs, David Jacobs, both of Henryetta, Johnny Joe Jacobs and Russell Jacobs both of Okmulgee and Joseph Jacobs Jr. of Oklahoma City; two sisters, Linda Harjo of Portland, Ore. and Martha Jacobs of Henryetta; and many other relatives and friends.

Pallbearers were: Paul Amos Jacobs; Houston Lee Jacobs; Richard Lee Jacobs; Johnny Joe Jacobs Jr.; Terry Yahola; Amos Yahola; Frank Yahola; Joseph Wayne Yahola; Scottie Jacobs; and Charles Jacobs.

Flower girls were: Susie Yahola; Minnie Yahola; Crystal Jacobs; Shelley Jacobs; Josephine Jacobs; Melinda Yahola; Kerry Yahola; Joanna Jacobs; Aisha Jacobs; and Aileen Jacobs.

Interment was at the Jacobs Family Cemetery in Henryetta.

HAROLD MILLER

COWETA — Funeral services for Harold Runt Miller were held at Snake Creek Baptist Church with Revs. Greg Doyle, Andy Hale, and George Miller officiating.

He was born on Feb. 24, 1917 in Okmulgee to Thomas and Lucinda Tiger Miller. He died on Jan. 18 in Moore.

He had lived in the Haskell, Snake Creek, and Concharty areas for most of his life. He worked as a construction laborer before retiring. He was a member of Snake Creek Baptist Church. He served the country in two branches of the military during World War II. He spent time in Germany while he was in the Army and was in the Pacific and Alaska while in the Navy. He enjoyed being outdoors, hunting and fishing, playing dominoes, bingo, and baseball.

He was preceded in death by: his parents; brothers, Amos and Norman Miller; and sisters, Rachel Freeman and Mae Mitchell.

He is survived by: two sons, Harold Miller of Haskell and Jackie Miller of Oklahoma City; sister, Agnes Carr of Lawton; brothers, Joe Miller of Arkansas and Frank Miller of Haskell; three grandchildren, one great-granddaughter, and many other relatives and friends.

Religion

Little Cussetah revival scheduled for April

SAPULPA — Little Cussetah Baptist Church is holding a "Share the Gospel" revival April 9 through 13.

The revival starts at seven nightly.

The evangelist will be Richard Pickup; music will be provided Lucille Harjo and pianist Wayne Harjo.

A nursery will be available.

The church is located at 7678 Hilton Road. For more information, call (918)224-2955

Springfield tournaments scheduled

OKEMAH — Springfield United Methodist Church is hosting a men's basketball tournament at Okemah Middle School on April 21.

The entry fee is $85.00. The deadline to receive entry fees is April 19 and is limited to the first 10 teams.

For more information, contact Ryan Smith at (405) 382-3546 or Jess Scott Jr. at (918) 756-5201.

The church is also holding a volleyball tournament on May 5 at Okemah Middle School.

The entry fee is $40. The deadline to receive entry fees is May 3. .

For more information, contact Ryan Smith at (405) 382-3546

Proceeds from both tournaments go to the church building fund.

Onion dinners

Oklahoma City Muscogee Association
When: 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., March 24
Where: OCMA Center — 543 S.E. 29th
Cost: $5 for adults; $2.50 for children ages five through 10 years of age
For more information: (405) 947-7752

Concharty United Methodist Church
When: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., March 31
Where: Concharty UMC — from U.S. Highway 75, exit at Beggs and drive 7.3 miles east on state highway 16; drive 3.9 miles north on Bixby Road and one mile east
Cost: the all-you-can-eat dinner is $6 for adults; $3 for children ages 10 and under

Duck Creek Ceremonial Ground/Community
When: 11 a.m., April 7
Where: DCIC Center — 10 miles north of Okmulgee on U.S. Highway 75
Cost: $6 for adults; $3 for children

Muscogee Film Festival
Native American Visual Arts Scholarship

The Muscogee Film Festival is offering a $500 scholarship to a qualified Native American college student pursuing a career in film/video production.

For more information contact:

Muscogee Nation Communications
P.O, Box 580
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-8700, ext. 327
comm4@ocevnet.org

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Official says trust reform 'imploding'

by Brian Stockes
Indian Country Today

WASHINGTON — The government's top official responsible for clean up of Individual Indian Money trust account data management said the Department of Interior's reform efforts are "slowly, but surely imploding."

Bureau of Indian Affairs Chief Information Officer Dominic Nessi, in a memo to Special Trustee Thomas Slonaker wrote that a reform plan submitted to a federal judge was based on "wishful and rosy projections."

The memo, disclosed by the Justice Department March 15, has Nessi saying that Interior's High Level Implementation Plan was the result of "posturing for the court." Justice lawyers said the memo raises "concerns" and asked for more time to reply to a legal motion by plaintiffs in Cobell vs. Norton.

"No in-depth analysis was performed before the development of the HLIP," Nessi wrote. "Instead, posturing for the Court and between DOI organizations seemed to be the primary influence on objectives and timeframes.

please see **TRUST**..., page 3

photo by Denise Jacobs

Muscogee Nation Okmulgee Child Development Center celebrated Week of the Young Child with a week-long schedule of activities in early April. On "Plant Day" center youth were given the opportunity to bring a plant or seeds to be planted in the center flowerbed. Three year old room teacher Annette Washington, far right, and teacher's aide Missy Pigeon, far left, help Tyler Hill plant seeds while Christopher Cohen observes. See the May issue of The Muscogee Nation News for more photographs of tribal child development and Head Start centers' activities during Week of the Young Child.

Muscogee People

Muscogee artist-activist inducted into Oklahoma Women's Hall of Fame

by Gerald Wofford

On March 21, Muscogee citizen Dana Tiger was inducted into the Oklahoma Women's Hall of Fame. The ceremony, which took place on the floor of the Oklahoma House of Representatives meeting room in Oklahoma City, was attended by family, friends, and many well-wishers.

"What an honor it is to be selected into the Oklahoma Women's Hall of Fame!," exclaimed an excited Tiger as she gave her acceptance speech.

Dana, the daughter of Muscogee artist Jerome Tiger, began painting in the early 90s. Tiger didn't realize this would be her outlet for artistic expression.

The Oklahoma Women's Hall of Fame's selection of Tiger was not only for her talent in the area of the arts, but also for her stand on human rights.

photo by Gerald Wofford

Dana Tiger with her son, Lisan

Sharon Raye, a close friend of Dana, made her introduction at the ceremony. Before the introduction, she related a story of Dana's ferocity and compassion towards human suffering.

"Dana Tiger has been known to arrange a press conference with full media coverage," said Raye in reference to Dana's commitment to call attention to the mistreatment of others.

"If you tell Dana about something that she feels is not fair, she will tell you and then proceed to do something about it. Feminism is rich with movers and thinkers like Dana," added Raye.

Tiger's determination is not only seen in her paintings and causes, but in her physical fight against Parkinson's Disease. Tiger, who was diagnosed with the disease in 1999, has received medical treatment in Germany that is not approved in the U.S. Fresh from her trip overseas — to be in attendance for the ceremony — Tiger mentioned how the treatment in Europe has affected her. "I feel so much better."

In many of Tiger's paintings, a strong woman with a look of determination in her eyes can usually be seen. This depiction not only represents Dana, but the entire Tiger Family as well — always moving with a goal or destination in mind.

Tiger being honored for contributions to women and state

TULSA — The Association for Women in Communications will honor Dana Tiger at 11:30 a.m., April 23 at Southern Hills Country Club.

Tiger, along with three other women, will be honored for her contributions to women and the Tulsa chapter's annual newsmakers luncheon.

Letters to the editor

Head Start kids appreciate valentine delivery

Editor:

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Head Start children would like to offer a big thank you to Jorene and Charlie Coker for delivering the valentines that the children made for the veterans at the Talihina Veterans Center.

The center sent a nice thank you note to us on how much they appreciated the children's thoughtfulness.

Jorene and Charlie also sent some of our valentines to other veteran organizations around the area.

Vicki Tate, Sapulpa

Editor's note: Vicki Tate is the manager of the Muscogee Nation Head Start program.

Legal Notices

Published in *The Muscogee Nation News*, Volume 30, Issue 4, April 2001

Case No. AD 2000-05

In the matter of the adoption of Zandra Cutke Easiley, DOB: 4/9/92; Malcolm Bunny Easiley, DOB: 2/22/93; and Jomekka Mae Easiley, DOB: 3/4/94.

Notice and order setting hearing

To: Mr. Darren Easiley
2003 West 7th Apt. #201
Amarillo, Texas 79100

Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Ms. Shannon Prescott
Assistant Attorney General
P.O. Box 580
Okmulgee, Oklahoma 74447

Take notice that on the 11th day of December 2000, there was filed herein the verified *Petition For Adoption and Application To Adopt Without Consent of Natural Parent*, a copy of which is attached hereto and made apart hereof. Therein, Ella M. Hill, maternal grandmother and Petitioner, claims Darren Easiley is the natural father of the above-named minor children and that his consent to the adoption by the Petitioner of the minor children, Zandra Cutke Easiley, Malcolm Bunny Easiley and Jomekka Mae Easiley, is unnecessary. Petitioner requests that the Court so adjudge and that it determines that said children be eligible for adoption without the consent of the natural father. Petitioner claims entitlement to such relief pursuant to NCA 92-119, § 714. (c)(2). She claims that, during the twelve (12) months immediately preceding the filing of the *Petition For Adoption and Application To Adopt Without Consent of Natural Parent*, he has willfully failed, refused or neglected to contribute to the support of said minor children according to his financial ability to contribute to such minor children's support, and pursuant to NCA 92-119, § 714. (c)(2), which is more fully specified in the *Petition For Adoption and Application To Adopt Without Consent of Natural Parent*.

Take Further Notice That:

1. A hearing is scheduled upon the *Application To Adopt Without Consent of Natural Parent* for the 14th day of May, 2001 at 1:30 p.m. in the courtroom of the Honorable Patrick Moore, in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Courthouse, Okmulgee, Oklahoma. The purpose of this hearing will be to determine whether consent of the natural father is unnecessary to the adoption of Zandra Cutke Easiley, Malcolm Bunny Easiley and Jomekka Mae Easiley, and whether said minor children are eligible for adoption without consent, pursuant to the provisions of NCA 92-119, § 714. (c)(2).

2. A hearing is scheduled upon the *Petition for Adoption* for the 16th day of May, 2001 at 1:30 p.m., in the courtroom of the Honorable Patrick Moore, in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Courthouse, Okmulgee, Oklahoma. The purpose of this hearing will be to determine whether to grant the requested adoption of said children by said Petitioner and the relief incidental to adoption requested in the *Petition for Adoption*.

3. In the event that you fail to appear at either or both of these hearings, each will occur in your absence and without further notice to you. Following the hearing on the *Application To Adopt Without Consent of Natural Parent*, the Court may adjudge that your consent is unnecessary to the adoption of said minor children by said Petitioner and that said minor children are eligible for adoption without consent. Following the hearing on the *Petition For Adoption*, the Court may grant the requested adoption. In that event, and on the date thereof, the paternal rights, privileges and duties concerning said minor children would be permanently terminated.

4. You may seek the advice of an attorney on any matter connected with this suit. Such attorney should be consulted immediately.

/s/ Patrick Moore, Judge of the District Court

Cynthia D. Pickering
OBA #15826
Attorney for Petitioner
P.O. Box 159
Okmulgee, Oklahoma 74447

March District Court Filings

Small Claims:

- Star Financial Services vs. Maxine Hill, foreign judgement
- We Finance, Inc. vs. Kathy Putman, small claims

Protective Order:

- Georgia Frye vs. Roy Frye
- Roman Watashe vs. Kenny Marshall
- Ben and Paula Watashe vs. Kenny Marshall

Second opinion

by Second Chief A.D. Ellis

Springtime is my favorite time of the year. I can still remember the feeling of the coolness of the ground that dad had just plowed with his team of horses. Barefoot in a fresh plowed field was the height of expectation for a seven year old boy. How times have changed.

Today and each day I visit with people who have never experienced the joy of no worries and living in the "good old days" when we had nothing.

Ellis

The days between December 20, 2000 and January 5, 2001 were declared a national disaster in our Nation because of the ice storms. For the last two months, we have worked with the Federal Emergency Management Assistance people to map out damage to tribal roads and driveways. The tribal roads program have traveled from border to border with FEMA personnel and finally have finished. Over 100 driveways and roads were affected by the 10-day storm and FEMA has agreed to fund the repair work. I'm sure we probably missed a few, but the deadline was March 6.

The Johnson O'Malley state conference was held during the last week of March in Oklahoma City and again sponsored by the Muscogee Nation. All tribes were very effective with our school children and we continue to expand our J.O.M. activities.

A huge gain in gaming revenue was evidenced in February, surpassing any month on record. Our gaming board, bingo halls, and employees must be doing something right, because the tribe is really benefiting from their success.

In other affairs, the economic development area is busy. Muskogee travel plaza construction has started and construction on the new housing office building, north of the complex, should be underway by May. The goal is to get all divisions of housing in one office location. This will help our citizens, especially the elders, to accomplish all housing business without travelling from place to place.

Funds have just been appropriated by the National Council to purchase 60 acres of land on U.S. Highway 69, south of Muskogee. This is the proposed site of office centers and future sites for business development. I realize that this all sounds good to the citizens, but most people want to see

please see **SECOND OPINION...**, page 8

The Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to ***The Muscogee Nation News***, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of every month.** ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Standard Class A from Okmulgee, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

Stephanie Barnett, managing editor
Gerald Wofford, photography
Denise Jacobs, page layout
Jennifer Taryole, circulation

Muscogee National Council overview

OKMULGEE — The following consists of actions of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council conducted at the March 31 regular session.

Speaker **Wilbur Gouge**, McIntosh District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

In Council business it:

• approved unanimously (24-0) Tribal Resolution 01-05, authorizing the principal chief to sign a Sac and Fox Nation Juvenile Detention Services agreement with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

• approved unanimously (25-0) TR 01-06, authorizing the execution of an agreement, part 1, by the principal chief between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and SGS, L.L.C.;

• approved unanimously (25-0) TR 01-07, authorizing the principal chief to execute a contract for the purchase of real property located in Muskogee to be used for economic development purposes;

• approved unanimously (25-0) TR 01-08, authorizing the extension of an audit contract with John Arledge and Associates upon the completion of the fiscal year 2000 audit;

• approved unanimously (25-0) TR 01-09, authorizing the principal chief to execute a contract for the purchase of real property located in Sapulpa;

• approved (16-9) as amended National Council Act 01-16, appropriating tribal funds for a fellowship hall and class rooms for Indian Fellowship Baptist Church;

• approved unanimously (25-0) to return to committee NCA 01-22, authorizing the expenditure of expansion funds received for the Checotah Head Start Center;

• approved unanimously (25-0) NCA 01-24, enacting an appropriation to the social services department for temporary emergency personnel;

• approved unanimously (25-0) NCA 01-29, enacting an appropriation for commissioning a nursing home facility task force;

• approved unanimously (25-0) NCA 01-30, authorizing the principal chief to appropriate additional funds to the office of the tax commission;

• approved unanimously (25-0) NCA 01-31, appropriation funds to the tax commission office for the development of a tribal tax software program;

• approved unanimously (25-0) NCA 01-32, authorizing the expenditure of additional Low Income Heat and Energy Assistance Program funds for social services;

• approved unanimously (25-0) NCA 01-33, authorizing the expenditure of funds received for Eufaula Dormitory;

• approved unanimously (25-0) NCA 01-34, authorizing the expenditure of funds from the Bureau of Indian Affairs Self-Governance compact to demolish an abandoned house on restricted property;

• tabled (14-11) NCA 01-35, appropriating funds for road construction and repair at the commodity warehouse, General Services Administration building, and Okmulgee Health Clinic

• tabled (22-3) NCA 01-37, amending NCA 00-125 (approving the comprehensive annual budget for FY 2001 and providing for appropriations) by revision of section 109;

• approved unanimously (25-0) NCA 01-38, appropriating funds for the Muscogee Nation Challenge Bowl being coordinated by the tribal Johnson O'Malley program;

• approved unanimously (25-0) NCA 01-39, appropriating funds to pay the incarceration charge to house Muscogee Nation prisoners in the county jail;

• approved unanimously (25-0) NCA 01-40, authorizing the purchase of property in Sapulpa (Creek County) as a site for the Sapulpa Head Start Center and appropriating funds for the purchase and for related costs;

• approved unanimously (25-0) NCA 01-41, authorizing the expenditure of a grant received by the children and family services department (division of community services);

• approved unanimously (25-0) NCA 01-42, requesting a supplemental appropriation for the tribal hardship program in the amount to $9,500 for the remainder of FY 2001;

• approved unanimously (25-0) NCA 01-43, amending section 116 of NCA 00-174, relating to use of earmarked tax revenues, to be codified in title 42 of the Code of Laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

• approved unanimously (25-0) NCA 01-44, authorizing the expenditure of funds to survey and map the tribal capitol complex area from funds provided for such in NCA 00-174, section 116 (revised motor vehicle tax code);

• approved (24-0) NCA 01-45, appropriating tribal funds to the A.C.C.E.S. Indian club of Haskell Indian Nations University;

• approved (24-0) NCA 01-46, appropriating funds for construction of a center for Bristow Indian Community;

• approved unanimously (25-0) NCA 01-47, appropriating funds for the purchase of real property in Muskogee to be used for economic development purposes;

• failed to approve (10-15) NCA 01-53, governing the expenditure of tribal funds through appropriations and amending NCA 97-07, as amended, and NCA 94-16, as amended; and

• tabled (16-9) NCA 01-55, appropriating funds for the 27th annual Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival.

In other business the Council:

• failed to approve (4-20-1) an amendment to rules and procedures.

Trust

continued from page one

The Feb. 23 memo was submitted to Slonaker the same day a federal appeals court ruled the government had mismanaged tribal trust funds since 1887. That ruling was part of an appeal by the government of an earlier decision by Judge Royce C. Lambert in the case, formerly Cobell vs. Babbitt. Nessi did not respond to phone calls.

For more than a quarter century, congressional and tribal members complained that the BIA failed to invest in the modernization of their account systems. In addition, the BIA investment activity in general left many questions with regard to the potential for funds were they properly invested. Hundreds of millions of dollars in potential interest were lost because money was left as cash for long periods of time, IIM account holders and plaintiffs argue.

Without an accounts receivable system and with so many leases missing, the BIA is unable to tell the trust account holders whether all of the income due on their asset leases has been collected. Mineral Management Service operations on tribal lands continued with no system to guarantee that the legal amount due a tribe or individual on those resources was in fact paid.

To date, the government has spent more than $40 million on a new computer system, called the Trust Assets and Accounting Management System (TAAMS), to track all money going in and out of trust accounts, Congressional records show. It is this system that Nessi, in charge of oversight, openly criticizes in the memo.

Just after the memo was written by Nessi, Slonaker filed a report with the court which characterized the situation in a much different light. Slonaker said substantial progress had been made with the new system. He said that as of the end of last year, all new land title documents are recorded in TAAMS in Alaska, eastern Oklahoma, the Rocky Mountains and the southern Plains.

Nessi, Slonaker, and Interior Secretary Gale Norton have testified in court and before Congress that trust reform and the new TAAMS were a success.

As recently as Feb. 28, Norton told the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs that TAAMS was a much-needed automated system and that "much progress has been made.

"These particular projects present huge challenges, but there is no doubt that they can be concluded satisfactorily," Norton said.

The American Indian plaintiffs in the case said it was "particularly disturbing" that Secretary Norton made no mention of the memo in the court-ordered quarterly progress report recently filed by Slonaker, or to the committee.

In papers filed in court just after the memo was made public, the plaintiffs pointed out numerous discrepancies between the government's report of Interior's attempts at trust reform and "grim disclosures" made by Nessi in the memo.

"If they're going to do this to the Court, you can imagine what they've done to Native people for 120 years," said Elouise Cobell, lead plaintiff in the case. "The only way we're going to stop this is if we have personal sanctions for these people."

Justice lawyers are asking U.S. District Judge Lamberth to delay proceedings until May 4 to review allegations in the memo.

Cobell and other plaintiffs initiated the class-action lawsuit in 1996 to force the federal government to account for billions of dollars in unreconciled individual Indian money funds under the government's supervision since 1887. Government argues the law is unclear before 1994 and that the government should be able to move forward with reforms without judicial oversight.

Community hospital holding health fair

OKEMAH — Creek Nation Community Hospital is holding a health fair on April 20.

Special services offered include: mammograms; eye clinic; women's health; smoking cessation; diabetic clinic; and ultrasound. Children's activities include: face painting; games; and door prizes.

The health fair will provide the following tests free: blood pressure; blood sugar; fat analysis; peak flow; and pulmonary function. The fair will also have: an educational program on car seat safety; immunizations; a hospital tour; and cardiopulmonary resuscitation classes. Door prizes will be given away and refreshments will be available.

The hospital is located at 309 N. 14th. For more information on booths, contact Meggin Bean or Sheryl Sharber at (918) 623-2005.

Eufaula health center holding health fair

EUFAULA — Eufaula Indian Health Center is holding a health fair from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., April 27 at Eufaula Indian Community Center.

Its public health office and Community Health Representatives will be screening participants for: cholesterol; blood sugar; blood pressure; foot care; and audio; and visual.

Information will also be available from local public service and health care organizations along with free samples. Drawings will also be held throughout the fair. For more information, call (918) 689-2547.

Minerals program holding meeting

EUFAULA — The Bureau of Indian Affairs Minerals Program is holding a meeting to inform the Muscogee (Creek), Seminole, Choctaw, Mississippi Choctaw, and Chickasaw royalty owners of the royalty process on May 9.

The meeting will be held from 9 to 11:30 a.m and 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Fountainhead Lodge. The meeting will address problems that with royalty payments and/or leasing problems. Royalty owners should bring documents for the Minerals Section staff to review; answers will be provided that day if possible.

Staff from the: Minerals Management Service; Bureau of Land Management; Office of Trust Funds Management; a trial attorney from the Solicitor Office; representatives from the Muscogee Nation Realty Staff; Okmulgee field office; Wewoka Agency; Choctaw Nation Realty Staff; Talihina Field Office; Chickasaw Agency; and Eastern Oklahoma Regional Office Minerals will be available to discuss problems and answer questions regarding leases and royalty payments.

A representative from the Internal Revenue Service also will be available to answer questions about taxable and nontaxable income received from restricted lands of the Five Civilized Tribes.

For more information, call the Minerals Program at 1 (800) 238-1943.

Wildlife habitat issues being addressed

STILLWATER — An allocation of $100,000 has been established for tribal liaisons and tribal resource conservationists to work with tribal governments in addressing wildlife habitat issues on land owned by tribes.

Tribal emergency medical services offers CPR training to Lighthorse

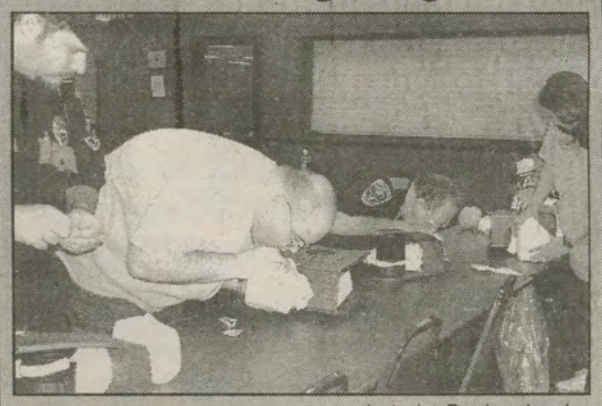

photo by Denise Jacobs

Scott Randall of Creek Nation Emergency Medical Services recently offered cardiopulmonary resuscitation training to Lighthorse Administration security guards stationed at Creek Nation Okmulgee Bingo. Pictured, left to right, are: Dean Simmons; Charles Summers; and Russell Goodman, all of Henryetta; and Tammy Checotah of Okmulgee.

This allocation will not be extended to tribal members' lands, individual allotted lands, individual restricted, and other similar holdings.

Liaisons and conservationists will work with tribal governments, on lands owned by or held in trust for tribes, to develop conservation plans that address tribes' wildlife habitat goals and objectives. Any funds remaining from this allocation will be rolled over to

please see **NOTICES...**, page 8

design by Jamie Postoak
photos by Muscogee Nation Communications

Education

Woman elected editor law review

NORMAN — Muscogee tribal member Dana Deere of Tulsa was elected editor-in-chief of the American Indian Law Review for 2001 through 2002.

The American Indian Law Review (AILR) is a legal publication published twice a year by the University of Oklahoma School of Law. The AILR is the only law review that focuses on Native American legal issues. AILR was founded in 1973.

Deere is in her second year of law school and hopes to practice tribal/native law when she graduates in 2002. She is a 1986 graduate of Nathan Hale High School in Tulsa. She has a bachelor's degree in education and a minor in Native American studies, both received from the University of Oklahoma. She is currently serving as vice president of the Native American Law Student Association and serving on the college of law's self study committee.

Deere, her husband, John Hayden, and their three children, Billy, Ishie, and Daniel, reside in Norman.

She is the daughter of Daniel Deere of Tulsa and Pam Dykes of Osage. Her grandparents are the late Lois and Dean Deere of Eufaula.

Harjo receives awards at Tulsa Indian Art Festival

TULSA — Fifteen year old Kassey Harjo recently received two awards at the 15th Annual Tulsa Indian Art Festival.

Harjo

She received a second place award for her entry of a Peyote-style beaded keychain and received an honorable mention award for a beaded medallion. Her entries are displayed in the Grove Library.

She is a freshman honor student at Grove High School.

Harjo is of Muscogee, Seminole, Cherokee, and Mississippi Choctaw descent.

She is the daughter of Rachael and David Bible of Grove and the late Victor Harjo, Strothers.

Citizen participates in computer competition

OKMULGEE — Monique Harjo participated in an Oklahoma State University-Okmulgee computer competition and ranked among the top 50 out of 1,000 students competing.

She competed in the databases and Excel competition.

The 16-year-old is a sophomore honor student at Grove High School and a member of the Future Business Leaders of America.

Harjo is of Muscogee, Seminole, Cherokee, and Mississippi Choctaw descent.

She is the daughter of Rachael and David Bible of Grove and the late Victor Harjo, Strothers.

Citizen wins first place in free throw contest

INDIANOLA — Tribal citizen Tess Harjo placed first in a free throw contest held at an Indianola basketball tournament held in February.

She made seven out of 10 shots to win the gold medal.

Harjo is in the fourth grade and attends Ryal School.

Harjo

She is the daughter of Shelley and Ryan Harjo of Muskogee.

Her grandparents are Sally and the late Walter Taylor, Henryetta, and Thelma Harjo of Virginia and Frank Harjo of Muskogee.

"I am very proud of her as are all of her aunts and uncles," said her *mamoce*, Sarah Taylor.

Boy selected to attend technology summit

AUSTIN, Texas — Dustin High School junior B.J. Hill has been nominated as a national delegate representing Oklahoma at the National Summit of Young Technology Leaders to be held in July.

Hill

Hill, along with other sophomores and juniors from across America, will study with and learn from some of the nation's leaders in high technology, computers, and the internet.

Lab, interactive workshops and content-rich concentrations hosted by internet companies will allow the participants to explore state-of-the-art technology.

Among Hill's awards and honors are: All-American Scholar, 2000; Who's Who Among American High School Students 1998-99, 1999-2000; National English Merit Award, 2000; Hughes County Conservation District Backyard Stewardship — second place poster and essay. He is also an All Star member of the Dustin Redskins' Boys Basketball Team — a recent contender at the for the state championship in its class.

He is the son of Maria and Billy Hill of Okmulgee.

He resides with his paternal grandmother, Mary Hill, of Dustin. His maternal grandparents are Martha and Eddie Lowe of Texanna.

Program accepting requests for applications

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee Nation Higher Education Department is accepting application requests for the 2000-01 academic year.

Students should meet the following requirements to be eligible: possess a Certificate Degree of Indian Blood and Muscogee Nation tribal membership cards; be planning to attend an accredited two-year junior college or four-year university; and apply for federal financial aid at a college or university and complete the FAFSA form to be eligible for the Bureau of Indian Affairs Higher Education Grant.

Current grade reports must be submitted to receive an application.

Applications will be mailed through May 31. The closing date to apply for the Self Governance Higher Education grant is June 1. The tribal grant application closing date is June 15.

Continuing students must have submitted current grade reports or transcripts and met requirements to receive a renewal form. The renewal forms were mailed March 1 and must be returned by June 1.

For more information, contact the Muscogee Nation Higher Education office at (918) 756-8700 or 1-800-482-1979, ext. 614, 615, or 616.

Applications being accepted for program

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee Nation Summer Youth Employment Program will be accepting applications through May 3.

Applications will be taken at 1:30 p.m. on Wednesdays.

Applicants must provide the documentation at the time of application: a Certificate Degree of Indian Blood card; Social Security card; proof of income for the past six months (i.e., salary from employment, Social Security, Aid to Families with Dependent Children, and financial aid, etc.); verification of residence within Muscogee Nation boundaries; proof of selective service registration for males ages 18 ann or over; copy of high school transcript, high school diploma, or GED; college students must bring copy of college transcript and documentation of financial aid; documentation proving that applicant will be 16 years of age by June 4 and not older that turn 22 years of age before July 27; a copy of an Indian Health Service card verifying chart number or private insurance card and name of physician.

For more information, call (918) 756-8700 or 1-800-482-1979, ext. 620.

Participants sought for development program

NORMAN — American Indian Research and Development, Inc. (AIRD) is seeking nominations and applications for Project C.L.A.S.S. (Cohorts in Leadership and Administration for Scholastic Settings).

Project CLASS offers a one-year master's degree program that AIRD, Inc. has developed with Cameron University. Selected project CLASS participants will receive: full tuition; a monthly living stipend; dependent stipend (if applicable); and a book allowance.

Project CLASS program is offered through Cameron University's CAM-STEP (Cameron Secondary Teacher Education Program) in Lawton. This professional development program will allow twenty American Indians who have earned degrees in nonteaching areas the opportunity to earn a secondary school licensure as well as master of arts degree in teaching in one calendar year. The deadline for applications is May 1. Classes begin in August.

For more information contact: American Indian Research & Development, Inc. 2233 W. Lindsey, Suite 118 Norman, OK 73069; (405) 364-0656 or e-mail airdsat@ionet.net.

Reunion of Carter Seminary being held

CARTER — A Carter Seminary Reunion will be held from 9:30 a.m to noon, May 19.

All graduates, former employees, families, individuals that have attended past reunions are welcome to attend.

Lunch will be served. Those attending are encouraged to bring old photos and memorabilia.

For more information, contact Roberta Peters Williams at (580) 889-1931.

Clarification

Brent O. Hale Jr. attended and graduated from Harvard Medical School in Boston, Mass.

Arrival

Autumn Brumfield

OKMULGEE — Autumn Brumfield was born Dec. 28 at Okmulgee Memorial Hospital to Shawn and Portia Brumfield.

Welcoming her home were: her brother, Kane Lee Smith; her great-grandma, Opal Grammer of Okmulgee; great-aunt, Nina James of Okmulgee; great-uncle and aunt, Donnie and Ladonna of Beggs; and many cousins.

Smith and Brumfield

Birthdays

California boy celebrates sixth birthday

PANAMA CITY, Calif. — Sundance Dakota Jo Nail celebrated his 6 birthday on Feb. 27 at his home.

Nail is three-fourths Muscogee. He has worked in a pizza parlor since he was four years old and used his earnings to purchase his clothes.

He is the son of Javiar and Susan Araminta Nail Lopez.

His maternal grandparents are Joe and Joan Nail of Sapulpa. His paternal grandparents are Thomas and Armenia Lopez of Sherman Oaks, California.

Nail

Nail is the great-grandson of the late Roy Watson and Juanita Ingram and the late Bud and Ethel Robertson. He belongs to the Deer Clan.

Wilson elder to celebrate 90th birthday

OKMULGEE — The children of Wilson Community elder Hepsey Gilroy invite her family and friends to attend her 90th birthday celebration to be held at 2 p.m., April 21.

Her birthday celebration will be held at East Central Oklahoma Electric Cooperative located on south Wood Drive in Okmulgee.

Individuals planning to attend are requested to call: Melissa at (918) 446-6848; Harvey at (918) 652-9684; or Joe at (918) 371-8974; or e-mail mswanda@soca.com.

Dustin resident organization anniversary celebration

Above: Community Health Representative Clara Yuponco, of Okmulgee, tests blood sugar and blood pressure levels at the celebration.

Below: Connie Proctor of Dustin, coordinator for the arts and crafts exhibits and secretary for the organization, displays her wares.

Right: Jimmy Jack of Dustin participates in the horseshoe tournament.

photos by Denise Jacobs

Reunion

TULSA – The descendants of Willie Cornell are holding the annual Cornell Family Reunion on from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., May 25 at Tulsa Creek Indian Community Center located at 8611 S. Union.

Activities include: a frybread contest; an Indian car contest; a dessert contest; and a volleyball tournament. The meal is pot luck.

For more information, contact Paula Willits at willip@geotec.net or call (918) 445-1155.

Joy Harjo receives first American Indian Festival of Words Author Award

photo by Stephanie Barnett

Below: Joy Harjo signs a copy of her book written for children, "The Goodluck Cat," for tribal citizen Donna Foster of Catoosa

photo by Stephanie Barnett

Above: Ross Swimmer, American Indian Author Award Selection Committee member, presents Harjo after his introduction and presentation of the award at Central Library in Tulsa.

photo by Stephanie Barnett

Below: Tulsa tribal citzens William Hill and Monetta Trepp, both Central Library American Indian Collection Advisory Committee members, wait for Harjo to sign their programs.

REV. JACKSON DEERE

SEMINOLE — Funeral services for Rev. Jackson Edmond Deere were held Feb. 3 at Hitchita Methodist Church.

Deere was born on Feb. 19, 1917 in Seminole to Robert and Nicy Deere. He died Feb. 1 at his home in Tulsa.

Deere was a veteran of World War II, having served in the U.S. Army Airborne in Greenland.

He served as a Methodist minister. Deere pastored Yeager Circuit, Choska Circuit, Grant Chapel.

He was preceded in death by: his parents; three sisters, Annie Pruitt, Cindy Harjo, and Lizzie Harjo; and three brothers, Sammie Deere, Jesse Deere, and George Deere.

Deere is survived by: his wife, Beatrice Deere of the home; daughter, Brenda Howell of Glenpool; sons, Richard Barnett of Tulsa, Ben Conard of Tulsa, Marty Conard, Daniel Wind, and Richard Barnett Jr.; one brother, Buster Deere of Seminole; 18 grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

His grandsons served as pallbearers.

JAMES PICKERING

SAPULPA — Funeral services for James A. Pickering were held Jan. 25 at Little Cussetah Baptist Church with Rev. Jim Alexander officiating.

He was born Aug. 3, 1992 in Washunga to Isaac and Mary Edith Pickering. He died on Jan. 22 at his home. He belonged to the Deer Clan.

Pickering attended Pawnee Indian Boarding School, Chilocco, and, later, Haskell Institute.

He married Edna Ruth Burgess in Tulsa on Aug. 28, 1943. Pickering worked for Santa Fe Transportation, in Tulsa, where he had been employed for more than 33 years. After retirement, he enjoyed fishing and spending time with his family and grandchildren. He had lived in Sapulpa for most of his life.

Preceding him in death were: his parents; brothers, Issac Melvin Pickering and Archie Pickering; sisters, Sarah West and Luchille Knight; and one infant son, Phillip Eugene Pickering.

Pickering is survived by: his daughters, Sally Hampton of Sapulpa, Janie McCosar of Bristow, and Janette Harjo of Sapulpa; nine sons, James Pickering of Sapulpa, Timothy Pickering of Sapulpa, Charles Pickering of Sapulpa, Tommy Pickering of Eufaula, Jeff Pickering of Tulsa, Ricky Pickering of Sand Springs, Johnathan Pickering, Samuel Pickering of Chicago, Ill., and Zachary Pickering of Sapulpa; brother, Danny Hayes; 22 grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; and many other relatives and friends.

Serving as pallbearers were: Francis Harjo Jr.; Gene Daniels; Erick Pickering; James Harjo; Sheridan Pickering; and Judd Pickering. Honorary pall bearers were: Jim Hampton; Howard Dale; David Dale; Joseph Teehee; Morris Harjo; and Larry McCosar.

Interment was at South Heights Cemetery.

ETHEL WYATT

YARDEKA — Funeral services for Ethel Lene Thompson Wyatt were held March 17 at Yardeka Indian Baptist Church with Revs. Judson Deere and John Wayne Tulsa officiating.

She was born May 14, 1944 in Pierce to Newman and Cinda Sootawake Thompson. She died March 13 at her home.

She lived in Pierce for the first 18 years of her life. She was member of Silver Springs Baptist Church at Tiger Mountain.

She enjoyed spending time with her grandchildren and being involving herself in their activities. She also liked being outdoors. She liked to quilt and watch Oklahoma University football games. She was also an avid bingo player for a while.

Preceding her in death were: her parents; an infant daughter and an infant son, James William Wyatt, Jr.; brothers, Henry and Russell Thompson; and a sister, Bessie Mae Freeman.

She is survived by: daughters, Kathy Bear of Tulsa, Sharon Britt of Checotah, and Karen Carnes of Henryetta; sons, Richard Wyatt of Sapulpa and Brian Wyatt of Henryetta; sisters, Etta Dickerson of Wetumka and Sarah Harjo of Tulsa; brothers, Emmanuel Thompson of Eufaula, Newman Thompson Jr. of Henryetta, Marshall Thompson of Granada, Ariz., and Daniel Thompson of Henryetta; and two grandchildren.

Pallbearers were: Jory Hardison; Justin Jackson; Ruben Freeman Jr.; David Artussee; Steven Thompson; and Howard Jackson.

Interment was at the Wyatt Family Cemetery.

Belvin Baptist schedules spring revival

OKMULGEE — Belvin Baptist Church is having a Spring Revival beginning at seven nightly, April 23 through 27.

The evangelist will be Rev. Leslie Clark. The music team, Rev. Wayne and Lucille Harjo will be presenting the "Plan of Salvation" in word and song.

The theme is "Behold, A Sower Went Forth to Sow Seeds" from Matthew 13:3.

The church is located at 320 N. Mission. A nursery and van transportation are available. For transportation, call 733-2360.

For more information, contact Esther Gee (918) 756-5259.

Benefit gospel singing to be held at Liberty Faith

GLENPOOL — A benefit gospel singing for Billy Harjo will be held on April 28 at 7 p.m.

The gospel singing will be at Liberty Faith Church located at 141st and Elwood.

All proceeds will go toward the expenses for Billy Harjo to go to Australia as a sport ambassador in the summer.

United Methodist task force acts to sharpen focus on native spirituality

United Methodist News Service

TULSA — Spirituality is the common thread that Native Americans share regardless of the tribe or nation to which they belong.

Although that spirituality is expressed differently, members of a United Methodist task force believe that credence must be given to how native people express the Christian faith. The church's Native American Comprehensive Plan (NACP) will give particular attention to that topic for the next four years.

Meeting Jan. 26 through 28, the task force members said they will explore the contributions that native cultures, spiritual expression, and values can make to the mission of the United Methodist Church (UMC) during the 2001 through 2004 quadriennium. Plan members believe the past four years have been marked by a decline of the culture and spirituality among native people in the UMC as well as throughout the country.

Created by the 1992 General Conference, the NACP emphasizes Native American spirituality, congregational and leadership development, and involvement in the life of the UMC. The denomination has 19,000 Native Americans among its 8.4 million U.S. members.

The 2000 General Conference authorized a change in the task force's membership to enable a broader spectrum of grass-roots Native Americans to participate in the plan's policy and decision-making procedures. General Conference, the denomination's legislative assembly, also removed voting rights for church agency staff people and the Council of Bishops representative, and gave voting privileges to American Indian members from each of the church's five geographic areas in the United States.

The new members bring creative ways of looking at what the plan has done in the past four years and will rejuvenate areas that have been lagging, according to Ann Saunkeah, a Cherokee from Tulsa, and executive director of the plan. The task force has 31 members — 19 voting and 12 nonvoting.

"With more grass-roots involvement, my vision as executive director is to continue working with faith and vigor to ensure that native ministries flourish in the United Methodist Church," she said. "We have so much to offer to the church and to each other because of our diversity and cultures. Our differences can enhance every aspect of the denomination."

A 1990 Census report estimated that 1.9 million American Indians live within the boundaries of the church's 65 U.S. annual conferences, and more than 60 percent live in urban areas. The denomination has more than 200 Native American churches, ministries, and fellowships in the country and 28 are in urban areas. Statistics report that American Indians represent a rapidly growing population within the United States. Although their roots are deeply connected to tribal communities, more than 60 percent of Native Americans live and work in urban areas.

Oklahoma, with 49 tribes, has the largest concentration of American Indians in the U.S. In the UMC, many of them reside in the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference, which has 7,500 members and 91 congregations. Native American United Methodists, ministries, and fellowships can be found from the tip of Florida to Alaska.

"Our commonality among all the nations in this United States is our spirituality and we view spirituality differently," said Rev. Kenneth Deere, a staff executive at the churchwide Commission on Religion and Race in Washington D.C. and a member of the Muscogee tribe. "Our spirituality brought us this far because racism is still here in the church. We need to sensitize, educate, and try to change the behavior and attitude of the United Methodist Church with our spirituality because our ancestors were carried by the spiritual life, the spiritual way, and the spiritual culture to bring us this far."

While native people and tribes view spirituality differently, task force members said the UMC has stereotyped Native Americans by lumping them together and stating that they view spirituality in one way.

As a way to draw a wide number of people into the process of defining spirituality, the Office of Research of the churchwide General Council on Ministries, in cooperation with United Methodist Communications, is developing a survey of native people. The survey, which would cover people inside and outside the church, would identify how native people view spirituality and what cultural expressions they use.

"We are all different, but the church puts us in the same bowl," said Deere.

Second Opinion

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something physical happen. Hopefully a strong foundation will support strong business plans and it will happen.

Many thanks to the ceremonial grounds, Koweta Indian Community, and the Oklahoma City community for their thoughtful reception last month.

As of April 2, 2001, our tribal enrollment is 50,158 citizens. The Muscogee Nation Tag Office has sold 22,647 auto tags. Employment within Muscogee Nation — tribal, health administration, and housing numbers at approximately 1,000 in Okmulgee.

Best wishes and good health to all.

Quote of the month: *I don't think of helping others as anything other than the way life should be.*

Notices

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the broad habitat concerns of the state.

Applications from the tribes will be evaluated using the statewide criteria, but not included on the statewide ranking list. The deadline for submitting applications is May 31.

For more information, contact Kevin Norton at: (405) 742-1204; or write, Natural Resources Conservation Service, 100 USDA Suite 203, Stillwater, OK 74074-1204.

Dates for Creek Nation Festival announced

OKMULGEE — The 27th annual Creek Nation Festival has been scheduled for June 15, 16 and 17. The theme for the festival is "Old Time Homecoming."

Festival committee members are: Jeff Fife, chair; Kathy Guthrie; Ruthie Burgess; Diane Beasley; Michael Fish; and Edwin Marshall.

Resident services program receives grant

OKMULGEE — The Housing Authority of the Creek Nation Resident Services recently received the Resident Opportunities and Self-Sufficiency (ROSS) Grant administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

In accordance with the grant agreement, HUD will provide funds to resident services for activities described in its application.

The purpose of ROSS is to provide housing authority residents with supportive services, resident empowerment activities, as well as assisting residents in becoming economically self-sufficient.

Established resident organizations must submit a needs assessment survey to resident services before services can be provided. The survey allows resident services to initiate specific activities to target residents' needs.

For more information, contact Edwin Moore or Dennis Williams at (918) 752-3252 or (918) 752-3253.

Tribe's 4-H program has new extension agent

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee Nation now has in place a 4-H Extension Agent with the sole purpose of establishing and maintaining a strong 4–H program for youth residing within the Muscogee Nation boundaries of: Creek; Hughes; McIntosh; Muskogee; Okfuskee; Okmulgee; Tulsa; and Wagoner counties.

Coordinated by the Cooperative Extension Service, 4–H is a youth development program designed to teach members life skills such as leadership, communication, and decision-making. Education is promoted in a fun, meaningful, and relevant approach while realizing the need of all youth to feel competent, important, and worthwhile. Therefore, 4–H affirms and reaffirms youth's potential by providing opportunities to learn and succeed and recognizes them for their accomplishments.

Participants acquire new skills, develop ideas and values, and learn to be more confident and self-directed while benefiting from other aspects of 4-H programming. Not only do youth and their families benefit by coming into contact with dedicated volunteers and leaders in the local club and community, they also profit by sharing ideas and fun with one another. It provides an opportunity to belong and be recognized by friends and peers.

The focus of 4-H is to provide educationally sound, action-oriented learning experiences for youth between the ages of nine through 19, their families, and communities. However, youth from the ages of five through eight can be involved as Cloverbuds in a noncompetitive manner.

It is the agents' responsibility to recruit and involve Muscogee Nation youth and their families in a full range of 4–H youth development programs, including county and district events and activities such as contests, camps, and field trips that will enhance life skills and opportunities. Among the numerous 4–H project areas from which to choose are: amphibians and reptiles; bicycle; beef; citizenship and community development; consumer education; dairy; dog; entomology; environmental education; fabrics and fashions; field crops; food science; forestry; horse; horticulture; leadership; photography; poultry; public speaking; rabbits; sheep; shooting sports; swine; visual arts; wildlife; and woodworking. Costs for involvement are minimal and in certain situations funds may be available to help offset expenses.

The success of this program lies within the willingness of the community to get involved. Accordingly, individuals are needed to volunteer as 4–H leaders, helpers, committee members, and council representatives.

To participate, volunteer, learn more about the program, or voice an area of need, contact 4–H Muscogee Nation Extension Educator Jamie Littlefield at (918) 756-8700, ext. 610 or call 1 (800) 482-1979, ext. 610. Littlefield's office is located in the Muscogee Nation Human Development Building on the tribal capitol complex.

Celebration of Life being held

LAWRENCE, Kan. — "A Celebration of Life" is being held on April 21 and 22.

The events for April 21 include a stickball game to begin at noon on the campus of Haskell Indian Nations University. A dinner in honor of the late Gregg Seveir will begin at 5 p.m.; the Gregg Seveir Memorial Stomp Dance will begin at 6 p.m. at the Douglas County Fairgrounds located at 2120 Harper, building number 21.

A Mvskoke singing will begin at 11 a.m., April 22 at the Indian United Methodist Church. The master of ceremonies is Jerry Littleaxe.

For more information, contact the Seveir Family at (785) 843-6398 or (785) 749-8445.

Red Cross offering AIDS/HIV course

TULSA — American Red Cross Tulsa Area Chapter is holding an American Indian Decision to Survive HIV/AIDS Certification Program training is May 15,16,17 at Training Institute in Tulsa.

The course enables participants to receive dual certification in basic HIV/AIDS program fundamentals and the American Indian Decision to Survive instructor when successfully completed. The course requires written tests, a five to 10 minute presentation and attendance throughout all three days.

It provides: diversity awareness of American Indian cultures and the psychosocial issues involved in the American Indian response to AIDS and health issues; basic factual information in a culturally sensitive manner; and ways to incorporate cultural elements into HIV prevention.

The course examines the challenges American Indian people face in prevention and it answers questions about HIV and AIDS in a culturally sensitive and age appropriate manner. The course is taught in a comfortable, safe, and culturally sensitive environment with an American Indian Instructor Trainer.

The registration cost is $90.00 after April 16.

A minimum of six participants is required to hold the class. The class is limited to a maximum of 15 participants

For more information, contact Dannette McIntosh at (918) 831-1215.

International visitors from Russia tour Muscogee Nation District Court

photo by Gerald Wofford

Eight international visitors from Russia recently visited the Muscogee Nation District Court to learn about Indian tribal government. In background — National Council Speaker Wilbur Gouge, Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver, and District Court Judge Patrick Moore spoke to them on behalf of the Muscogee Nation.

Indian tennis championships being held

TULSA — The North American Indian Tennis association National Championships will be held May 26 through 28 at LaFortune Tennis Center located at 5302 S. Hudson.

For more information, contact Jerry Bales at (918) 428-2144 or jerrybales@ayaya.com or Dot Saunders at (918) 749-1920 or dot7247@juno.com.

Red Earth Museum seeks list of veterans

OKLAHOMA CITY — The Red Earth Museum is preparing an exhibit entitled "Pride, Passion, Ponies and Patriotism" which will honor tribal members who died in combat or who were decorated for acts of bravery during war.

The museum seeks to establish the most comprehensive list of native Oklahomans who were decorated or who died in service to the U.S. Museum Director John Elder requests that Muscogee Nation tribal members provide the museum with the names of such veterans so that they may be included in the memorial.

Send the names of tribal members who died in combat or who were decorated for acts of bravery during war to: Attn.: Darlene Jackson, The Red Earth Museum, 2100 N.E. 52nd St., Oklahoma City, OK 73111; call, (405) 427-5228; or e-mail darlene@redearth.org.

The Muscogee Nation News

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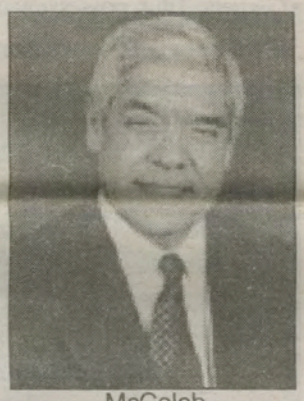
Indian Affairs nominee bit of a mystery in Indian Country

by Mary Pierpoint
Indian Country Today

OKLAHOMA CITY — Following the recent announcement by the Department of Interior of Republican Neal McCaleb as President Bush's nominee for assistant secretary, Indian Affairs, a rush of comments from across Indian country voice questionable support



McCaleb

McCaleb is of the Oklahoma Department of Transportation and little is known about him or his activities outside of Oklahoma. Many consider him an 11th hour appointment and wonder if having a background as a civil engineer will be enough to build bridges between Washington and Indian country.

please see **McCALEB**..., page 3

photo by Stephanie Barnett

The Tulsa Indian Actor's Workshop recently presented Bootlegger Blues — its second production written by Drew Hayden Taylor — at the Tulsa Performing Arts Center with a cast that was nearly all-Creek. Pictured, left to right, are Randi LeClair, Pawnee; Cody Chalakee, Muscogee; B.B. Love, Choctaw; Irene Tiger, Muscogee; Pogie Dawn, Muscogee; and Anthony Wamego, Muscogee-Seminole. The play was directed by Nancy Scott Fields, Muscogee-Cherokee.

Muscogee People

Muscogee artist-activist inducted into Oklahoma

by Gerald Wofford

Although the ancient art of karate originated in Orient, its philosophical approach to life is not much different than that of many tribal cultures; believes *Sensei* (teacher) Chebon Marks.

It is an ancient discipline embedded not only in the art of self-defense, but the total man as well — a harmonic balance that consists of body, mind, and soul.

Marks, a tribal citizen from Oklahoma City, doesn't just talk the talk, but walks the walk — having received black belts in different styles of karate such as "Moo Duk Kwan," and "Tae Kwon Do," both Korean. He has also studied Shorin-Ryu Karate-do, Okinawan style, and Chinese Iron Hand Gung Fu.

submitted photo

Marks and his son, Hok-She-Na-Tonkha. Marks belongs to the Tiger Clan — an animal which, in martial arts mythology, can represent such virtues as invincibility, strength, and honesty.

Marks believes the discipline taught in karate is essentially the same taught and practiced by Indian warriors of long ago. For instance, "the lance of a warrior is much like the *bo* or staff of a martial artist; the warrior's cry as he goes into battle is mirrored by the *kei* of a martial artist going into competition." Marks also believes it is the discipline of martial arts that reflects some Native American values as well.

Marks says the discipline of the martial arts aims at bringing together the physical, mental and spiritual aspects of the individual, resulting in health for the body, a mind at peace — the whole person balanced in harmony with creation. This harmony teaches respect for life, nature, and mankind, which Marks says "we also find at

please see **MUSCOGEE PEOPLE**..., page 8

Memorial Day Ceremony being held at tribal complex

OKMULGEE — A Memorial Day ceremony will be held at 11 a.m., May 28 at the Veterans' Memorial Monument located on the tribal capitol complex.

The master of ceremonies is Robert "Bill" Jones of Okmulgee.

The agenda includes:

- Calling of the warriors
- Opening prayer
- Welcome — Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver
- Maskoke hymn — audience
- Guest speaker — Col. Ernest Childers
- Maskoke hymn — audience
- 21 Gun Salute — Mvskoke Nation Honor Guard
- Taps
- Placement of wreaths — Muscogee Nation Indian Communities
- Maskoke hymn — audience
- Closing remarks — Robert Jones
- Closing prayer.

Lunch will be served following the ceremony.

Letters to the editor

Citizen wants to locate mother's relatives

Editor:

My name is Annmarie J. Christian. I am the 52 year old daughter of Anna Mary Josephine McAlpine Bissonnette and the granddaughter of Mary Josephine Wadsworth and granddaughter of Sam W. Brown (Chief Yuchi Micco Fus Hucha Yahola) of Sapulpa.

My mother Anna M.J. McAlpine Bissonnette turned 77 years old on March 16 and as a gift to her, I started to write her Creek Indian heritage, so she would finally know her family from infant hood — whom she never got to know as she was adopted shortly after birth by her paternal grandparents, Annie Teresa Doran McAlpine and Patrick James McAlpine Sr. and taken to Holyoke, Mass. to live.

In a letter my mother received from her father — Sam W. Brown — he told her about her half brother and half sisters in Oklahoma and Texas. One of these half siblings — Dorothy J. Brown, the daughter of Sam W. Brown — told my mother to get all the information on the Wadsworth and Brown families. I'm trying to locate the following people — my mother's half sisters and brother — or their descendants and gain knowledge of my mother's clan: Dorothy J. Brown, age 80 to 87; Wayne Brown, age 47; Mary Alice Brown, age 43; Penny Sue Brown age 41; and Patricia Jean Brown, age 30.

Other relatives I am seeking are: Sam W. Brown; Mary Josephine Wadsworth McAlpine; Mitchell Wadsworth; Emma Barr Wadsworth; Mitchell Wadsworth Sr.; Kate Holden Wadsworth; Nora Nichols; and Anne Washington.

If there are any Creek senior citizens alive that might have some knowledge of any of the aforementioned people and their family members, I would appreciate hearing from them and will answer all correspondence.

I am interested in newspaper clippings, pictures, etc., of any relatives.

I would be extremely grateful for any help from anyone in my quest to find my mother's lost relatives before she passes on.

You may contact me by writing: Annmarie J. Christian, 117 Miller St., Springfield, Mass. 01101-1935.

Annmarie J. Christian, Springfield, Mass.

Woman grateful to higher education department

Editor:

I want to thank everyone in the Muscogee Nation Higher Education Department who assisted me in finishing my education.

Through their generous help and assistance I will receive my bachelor's degree in social work on May 12. This program is just one of many that should be continued through the years to help assist all members. *Mvto.*

Yolanda Hunter, Shawnee

Legal Notices

Published in *The Muscogee Nation News*, Volume 30, Issue 5, May 2001

In the matter of: D.S.
Minor Creek Child
Case No. JV-95-27

Notice of hearing

To: Satoshia Tiger Ford, mother of D.S.

You are hereby given notice of a hearing on the above-styled and numbered case for the purpose of termination of your paternal rights in the District Courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Tribal Complex at Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the 13th day of June, 2001 at 1:30 p.m.

You are hereby informed that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the children remain wards of the Court and custody by continued in the Children and Family Services Administration for continued foster placement or possible pre-adoptive placement.

You are further informed that you have the right to be represented by legal counsel at this hearing.

I have hereunto set my hand this 19th day of April, 2001.

/s/ Patrick Moore, Judge of the District Court

Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Children and Family Services Administration
P.O. Box 580
Okmulgee, Oklahoma 74447
(918) 756-2112

April District Court filings

Protective orders:

- Arlene Davis vs. John Davis
- Ramona Rash vs. Mychal A. Red Thunder
- Reba J. McDermott vs. Cecil Deere

Criminal misdemeanor:

- Edwin Whiteshirt, public intoxication
- Donald Randall, public intoxication
- Edwin Whiteshirt, public intoxication

Criminal felony:

- Jimmie Morris, embezzlement
- Leslie Sutton, embezzlement
- Garnette Titus, possession of marijuana

Second opinion

by Second Chief A.D. Ellis

I noticed in the Tulsa paper, last Sunday, that the black people wanted to be paid for what America did to them, money, etc.

They mentioned that the Indians were paid millions for the land they gave to the white race — over $50 million. First, it was not given, it was taken away. Second, fifty million dollars for 100 million acres equals 50 cents per acre. Great Deal! The U.S. got the gold mine and we got the shaft. Be careful black people, you may be better off than you think.

Today, north of the complex, I see rocks flying and motors humming. Just a sign of progress for our tribe which is starting a construction boom. It's about time our people can see something taking place. My opinion is that we have built enough offices and created enough new jobs around the complex, so now it is time to produce dollars to support all these positions through tribal enterprises.

Ellis

August is filing time for all Council offices. In five months you'll see all prospective Council representatives getting their campaigns into high gear for the primary in September and I'll miss the excitement. Please be sure to register to vote. Many times a vote or two means winning or losing. This newspaper goes to approximately 8,000 Creek households and only about 4,000 vote in the general election for principal chief. Only if you exercise your privilege to vote will you get the people that you consider worthy and capable of conducting your tribal operations. This is your government and your money, so treat it well.

The new Constitutional Committee is almost formed, updating and amendments will start within 60 days. Public forums are planned throughout the Creek Nation and notices will be posted in the future.

Today — April 26 — I visited the Bristow Nutrition Center site and community center once again. I visited with Alex Deeringwater, the community president, and later with the Bristow senior citizens. I assured them that, contrary to rumor, they would continue to have a place to eat until their new nutrition building is completed. Last month the National Council appropriated approximately $100,000 for a new nutrition building. Gaming machines are occupying much of the current nutrition center space.

Quote of the month — "The trouble with the world is that so many people who stand up vigorously for their rights fall down miserably on their duties."

Mvto

The Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News *is the official* publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to ***The Muscogee Nation News***, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of every month.** ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Standard Class A from Okmulgee, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

Stephanie Barnett, managing editor
Gerald Wofford, photography
Denise Jacobs, page layout
Jennifer Taryole, circulation

Muscogee National Council overview

OKMULGEE — The following consists of actions of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council conducted at an April 10 emergency session and the April 28 quarterly session.

April 10 emergency session

• approved unanimously (17-0-0) National Council Act 01-55, appropriating funds for the 27th annual Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival in the amount of $75,000.

April 28 quarterly session

The National Council approved minutes for the following: March 27 planning session; March 31 regular session; and April 10 emergency session.

The following veto message was acted upon:

• failed to override (16-7-0) NCA 01-16, appropriating tribal funds for a fellowship hall and class rooms for the Indian Fellowship Baptist Church and

• failed to override (16-7-0) NCA 01-29, enacting an appropriation for commissioning a nursing home facility task force.

Speaker **Wilbur Gouge**, McIntosh District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

In unfinished business the Council:

• approved unanimously (22-0-0) NCA 01-35, appropriating funds for road construction and repair at the commodity warehouse, G.S.A. building, and Okmulgee Health Clinic as authorized in NCA 95-81 (establishment of a motor vehicle code) as amended by NCA 99-128 (authorizing the principal chief to expend tax revenue collected for reservation road construction or repair, public parking lots, and public safety) and

• approved (21-1-0) NCA 01-37, amending NCA 00-125 (approving the comprehensive annual budget for fiscal year 2001 and providing for appropriations) by revision of section 109.

In Council business it:

• approved unanimously (22-0-0) Tribal Resolution 01-10, confirming the nomination of **Linda Cusher** to serve the remaining term of **Dorothy Pinezaddleby** on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board;

Cusher is a tribal citizen residing in Okmulgee;

• approved unanimously (22-0-0) TR 01-11, reconfirming **Roger Wiley** to the Supreme Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

Wiley is a tribal citizen residing in McAlester;

• approved unanimously (22-0-0) NCA 01-22, authorizing the expenditure of expansion funds received for Sapulpa Head Start Center;

• approved unanimously (22-0-0) NCA 01-28, an appropriation to Okmulgee Indian Community for parking lot repairs;

• approved unanimously (22-0-0) NCA 01-48, authorizing the expenditure of funds received for the Eufaula Dormitory;

• approved unanimously (22-0-0) NCA 01-49, authorizing the expenditure of funds derived from the Self-Governance Annual Funding Agreement for a hydrological study for tribal land holdings;

• approved unanimously (22-0-0) NCA 01-50, amending NCA 99-20 § 1-100, 1-101, 8-108, 8-109, 8-110 and 9-117, relating to primary and general election dates, grounds and procedures for election contests, and ballot box security, to be codified in title 19 of the Code of Laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

• tabled unanimously (22-0-0) NCA 01-56, directing the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Housing Authority to adopt new contracts and/or agreements with contractors;

• tabled (16-6-0) NCA 01-60, appropriating funds for the establishment of veterans affairs services for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

• approved unanimously (22-0-0) NCA 01-61, appropriating funds to the Senior Methodist Organization of the Northeast District for the annual camp meeting of the United Methodist Church;

• approved unanimously (22-0-0) NCA 01-64, authorizing the expenditure of funds for the purchase of a video security system for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Muskogee Bingo Hall;

• approved unanimously (22-0-0) NCA 01-69, appropriating $2,600 to a Creek citizen, **Clara Mae Alexander Keawphalouk**, to attend her daughter's graduation from MIT, Cambridge, Massachusetts;

• approved unanimously (22-0-0) NCA 01-73, amending NCA 89-148 § 104 to add a new subsection "I" to allow the Lighthorse Chief with approval by the Lighthorse Commission to organize and operate a reserve Lighthorse Police program;

• approved unanimously (22-0-0) NCA 01-75, authorizing a special appropriation to **Billy Hill** for expenses to attend the National Summit of Young Technology Leaders;

• approved unanimously (22-0-0) NCA 01-76, appropriating and authorizing the expenditure of funds for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Roads Program to purchase equipment;

• approved (21-0-0) NCA 01-77, providing for the appropriation of funds for the purpose of completing phase 1 of the surfacing of the Montezuma Indian Church Road;

• approved unanimously (22-0-0) NCA 01-78, establishing a Constitution amendment committee and appropriating funds for payment of committee expenses and mileage reimbursements for citizen committee members; and

• approved unanimously (22-0-0) NCA 01-79, authorizing the expenditure of funds received from the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

McCaleb

continued from page 1

Interior Secretary Gail Norton said she believes McCaleb will bring a unique blend of skills and experience to the post. "His compassion for Indian issues, decisive management skills and ability to facilitate dialogue will help to improve this program and the relationship of the department with Indian tribes around the country."

Tex Hall, chairman of the Three Affiliated Tribes in North Dakota isn't as optimistic. Hall said he was not familiar with McCaleb and that in all the meetings he attended, McCaleb's name was never been mentioned . Hall said he considers this an 11th-hour appointment.

"It's a concern that he may not have the knowledge about tribal sovereignty that is needed," Hall said. "If you don't use your sovereignty, and we have to use it every day, you will lose it. If you don't have that experience, you are very limited in that capacity. That position is supposed to be an advocate for Indian tribes."

In the official background information released by Transportation's Public Information Office, a one-page summary shows McCaleb is a member of the Chickasaw Nation, was appointed in 1972-1974 by President Nixon to the National Council on Indian Opportunity and in 1983 he was appointed to the Indian Reservation Economics Commission by President Reagan.

The Indian Reservation Economics Commission on which McCaleb served wanted to not only end the BIA, but change the status of sovereignty and other policies which would have finished the Indian extermination that began during the Andrew Jackson-era. McCaleb is poised to head the very agency his committee wanted to dismantle.

It cannot be confirmed whether he voted for or against the findings in the report, which was later condemned throughout Indian country. McCaleb would not speak to the press before the confirmation hearings.

"The Begaye-McKenzie administration feels that it is a responsible choice given the fact that the Bureau of Indian Affairs has much work to do in carrying out its duties to serve American Indian communities on a government-government basis," Navajo President Begaye said.

"We must continue to stress, however, that the Bush administration cannot ignore services that directly affect American Indian communities.

"The Begaye-McKenzie administration believes in the idea that the federal government must be responsible to its people, and must be held accountable for its actions. With this, we share common concerns with other Indian nations with respect to trust responsibility."

McCaleb is a graduate of Oklahoma State University (1957) and holds a bachelor of science degree in civil engineering. He served eight years in the Oklahoma House of Representatives (1974-1982). He spent more than 40 years designing and supervising construction of roads, bridges, public facilities and architectural structures in Oklahoma and the Southwest, but little is known about his stand on many issues which face Indian country.

Information from Interior and Oklahoma Transportation shed little light on McCaleb the man. He has won numerous awards in Oklahoma and was inducted into the Chickasaw Hall of Fame in 1999.

Neal A. McCaleb was born in Oklahoma City June 30, 1935. He is married to Georgeann McCaleb and has four grown children and 14 grandchildren. He lives in Edmond, Okla., and announced he will keep his home there even if he is appointed as assistant secretary.

Those who have met McCaleb describe him as a "people person" with good public relations and administrative skills. Many contacted by Indian Country Today in the Oklahoma area believe his administrative skills brought him the nomination.

He is said to be a close friend of Oklahoma Gov. Frank Keating and Oklahoma sources speculated his appointment is a payback from President Bush to Keating.

"That (the rumor) could be because Keating was passed over for attorney general," said Gordon Melson, executive director of the Oklahoma Democratic Party. "But I never heard of anything about McCaleb associated with that or any kind of scandal.

"He is one of the Republican Party officials who has been able to work well with both parties. That hasn't been true of Gov. Keating and some others."

Melson said he wasn't sure what background the future assistant secretary would need, but he said he had nothing derogatory to say about McCaleb. "The gentleman seems to work well with people."

Information about McCaleb's association with the Chickasaw Nation was sketchy as far as his participation in various tribal programs. Information provided by the nation was similar to that of the transportation release. Transportation official said that they didn't believe he spoke Chickasaw.

Gov. Bill Anoatubby, said to be a close friend, released a

please see **McCALEB**..., page 8

Week of the young child
April 1st through 7th

photo by Gerald Wofford
Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver visits with Okmulgee Head Start and Okmulgee Child Development Center youth after making his proclaimation recognizing Week of the Young Child.

photo by Gerald Wofford
Lighthorse Administration Field Officer Washington Cummings makes Head Start student Taylor Givens' fingerprints.

photo by Gerald Wofford
Four year old Okmulgee Head Start student Jasmine Buckley enjoying Week of the Young Child activities.

photos by
Gerald Wofford
&
Holdenville Daily News

photo by Gerald Wofford
Okmulgee Head Start and Okmulgee Child Development Center with Chief Beaver. Front row, Eco Barnett — second row, left to right: Jacob Humphrey; Nautica Dixon; Lakota Robison; Kylee Morgan; Colton Factor; Donavon Dumas; Jade Stallings; and Cedric Noriega — back row, left to right: Vicki Tate, Head Start administration manager; Meske Juneau, Okmulgee Child Development Center teacher aide holding Blaise Mayberry; Chief Beaver; Mahalia Harjo, Okmulgee Child Development Center teacher aide holding Brock Hughes.

photo by Gerald Wofford
Okmulgee Child Development Center activities for the week included Show and Tell. Eco Barnett, far left, shows his two year old room classmates Teagan Erby, Junior Kahbeah, Maddie Gouge, Meske Wind, and Kelsey Arnold his moccasin collection.

photo by Gerald Wofford
Chief Beaver signs a proclaimation recognizing Week of the Young Child.

photo by Holdenville Daily News
Holdenville Child Development Center and Yeager Head Start youth, along with many other area Head Start programs and child care centers march down Holdenville Main Street in celebration of the week.

Red Cloud Art Show seeks artists' entries

PINE RIDGE, S.D. — The Red Cloud Indian Art Show, held in the Red Cloud Indian School Heritage Center, is seeking artists to enter their works by a May 20 deadline.

Benefactors of American Indian artists have provided more than $5,800 in awards for this year's Red Cloud Indian Art show which opens June 3.

Now in its 33rd year, the Red Cloud Art show is open to all Native American artists — Indian, Eskimo, and Aleut. All applicants must be at least 18 years of age and possess a tribal enrollment number.

Sponsored by the Heritage Center of Red Cloud Indian School, it is the nation's largest show of its kind with artists of more than 30 different tribes represented.

All works entered must be for sale; each year 40 percent or more of the works displayed are sold, said C.M. Simon, director of the show.

No entry fees are charged to the artists and the show is admission-free to the public.

Artists wishing to enter their works can get entry forms and details by writing: Red Cloud Indian School, Heritage Center, 100 Mission Drive, Pine Ridge, S.D. 57770.

Inter Tribal Council wants to reach out to youth

HOLDENVILLE — The South Central Inter Tribal Council of Davis Correctional Facility is organizing a program to enable its members to reach out to young adults be having problems with authority.

Members feel that they can inform the native youth about the consequences of making irrational decisions. "We would like to have the opportunity to share with these individuals a chance to see where making the wrong choices will lead them," said council public relations officer Randy Minter.

Minter said that it is one of the group's goals to give native youth "an understanding of what will happen if they make the same kind of mistakes many of us have made. We would like to allow the youth and others to understand that prison is not a place that they want to spend any part of their lives. I am a young man myself and many of the older brothers have helped guide me on my unfortunate journey within the Oklahoma prison system."

For more information, contact: Randy Minter #282552, Davis Correctional Facility, 6888 E. 133 Road, Holdenville, OK 74848-9033.

Diabetes amputations on the rise

BETHESDA, M.D. — The number of lower limb amputations in people with diabetes has climbed from 67,000 to 86,000 in two years, according to the latest national health data.

"The real tragedy is that almost half of the diabetes-related amputations that occur each year could be prevented," said Charles M. Clark Jr., M.D., cochair of the National Diabetes Education Program, a joint initiative of the National Institutes of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. "It's important for people with diabetes to know that foot complications don't necessarily have to be a way of life — good control of blood sugar and more effective foot care can go long way toward keeping feet healthy."

Diabetes can cause nerve damage and poor circulation in the feet and lower limbs. With nerve damage, people with diabetes my not feel a blister caused by poorly fitting shoes or a sore that develops from dry skin, injuries, or burns. Limited blood flow, due to poor circulation, makes it difficult for sores and infections to heal, and can ultimately lead to amputation of a toe, foot, or leg.

To help prevent diabetes foot problems, the National Diabetes Education Program offers a free booklet, "Take Care of Your Feet for a Lifetime," that contains practical foot care tips for people with diabetes, plus a list of organizations to contact for additional diabetes information.

To reduce the likelihood of a minor foot problem causing major complications, the National Diabetes Education Program suggests that people with diabetes follow these tips for protecting their feet:

please see **NOTICES**..., page 8

Okmulgee Elderly Seniors

photo by Denise Jacobs

Okmulgee Elderly Seniors Jean Wilson, and Lillian and Jim Thomas dye eggs.

Mvskoke Red Stick Society being organized

OKMULGEE — Officers for a new society of tribal combat veterans is currently being organized with the intent to seek official recognition from the Muscogee National Council.

"There is a need and a desire to recognize the Combat Veterans of the Mvskoke Peoples. It is our heritage that Red Sticks throughout our history have gone forward and actively engaged the enemy. In the past the Mvskoke held the warriors of the tribe in high esteem by granting them to form the House of Warriors. Respect amongst our people still exists, but the formal recognition is not present. The need for our people and our youth to witness the formation of men who have fought with tradition banding together for the purpose of a shared experience is finally supported and welcomed," said U.S. Marine Corp veteran Ken Davis, secretary for the society.

The overall mission of the Red Stick Society is to promote heritage to Muscogee people. A permanent written and visual record of the contributions of combat veterans must be available for the future generations, said Davis. A secondary mission of the Red Stick Society is to coordinate and assist other American Tribes and Nations to foster and form their own Combat Veteran Societies.

The qualifications for membership include:

- actual combat experience;
- personal award or unit award;
- combat designation device;
- involvement in actions that directly contributed to destruction of personnel and equipment
- Purple Heart;
- Service Record Book
- documentation of witnesses;
- a support MOS in time of war and not engaged in combat is not a qualifier, and
- all members will be screened to verify information.

Officers and a planning council has been installed until a forum of elected officers can be established. They are: president, Ernest Childers; vice president, Amos Harjo; secretary, Davis; and sergeant at arms, Phillip Coon.

"It is time to officially form a combat veteran society for Mvskoke men. The initial stage should be from World War II to the present. The Red Stick Society can go back as far as we decide. It is possible, but difficult perhaps, to verify combat of our ancestors through legends and oral history handed down to us throughout the years. We have a lot of Combat Veterans who have been highly decorated, and some that have been killed in action. It is time to show our people what their men have accomplished for the United States and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation," Davis said.

Creek Nation Festival event deadlines

Pageants

What: Senior Ms. Mvskoke Nation — 55 years and older; Miss Mvskoke Nation — ages 17 to 21; Junior Miss Mvskoke Nation — ages 13 to 16; Little Miss Mvskoke Nation Divisions I — ages three to five, Division II — ages five to eight, and Division III — ages nine to 12

Pageant dates:

- 7 p.m., June 14 — Miss and Junior Miss Mvskoke Nation
- 10 a.m., June 16 — Little Miss Mvskoke Nation
- June 16 — Senior Ms. Mvskoke Nation

Entry deadline: May 15

Coordinator: Janet Wise, chair, through the tribal office of child care

Contact: KoKo Lowe, Jo Ahtone, Faith Watashe, Gena Ballard, Cindy Russell, or Melody Hicks at (918) 758-1463 or 1 (800) 205-3705

What: Miss Mvskoke Pageant Program advertising: full page — $75; half page — $50; quarter page — $35; and business card size — $25. Available for vendors or families to show support to contestants as well as help raise funds for the costs of the pageant

Deadline: May 15

Contact: (918) 758-1463 or 1 (800) 205-3705

Softball

What: men and women's fast pitch tournament — teams are limited to 24 men and 16 women (paid first-come-first serve). Each team member must be an enrolled member of a recognized tribe and provide proof of enrollment. Brackets will be drawn and teams will be notified by June 8.

Tournament dates: June 15 through 17

Entry fee: $175 nonrefundable cashiers check or money order payable to the "Creek Nation Festival"

Entry deadline: fees must be received by June 1

Coordinator: Bill Dowdy or Ruby Booker

Contact: (918) 756-8700 or 1 (800) 482-1979, extensions 373 or 244

Junior olympics

What: junior olympics

Date: 8:30 a.m., June 15

Entry deadline: team registration and consent form, coach/representative form, and participant list must be submitted by June 8

Coordinator: George Coser and Newman Frank — coordinators are seeking volunteers to commit to assist with this event by June 8

Contact: (918) 756-2112 or 1-800-521-5432

Education

Program accepting requests for applications

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee Nation Higher Education Department is accepting application requests for the 2000-01 academic year.

Students should meet the following requirements to be eligible: possess a Certificate Degree of Indian Blood and Muscogee Nation tribal membership cards; be planning to attend an accredited two-year junior college or four-year university; and apply for federal financial aid at a college or university and complete the FAFSA form to be eligible for the Bureau of Indian Affairs Higher Education Grant.

Current grade reports must be submitted to receive an application.

Applications will be mailed through May 31. The closing date to apply for the Self Governance Higher Education grant is June 1. The tribal grant application closing date is June 15.

Continuing students must have submitted current grade reports or transcripts and met requirements to receive a renewal form. The renewal forms were mailed March 1 and must be returned by June 1.

For more information, contact the Muscogee Nation Higher Education office at (918) 756-8700 or 1-800-482-1979, ext. 614, 615, or 616.

Bacone Alumni Association holding reunion

MUSKOGEE — The Bacone College Alumni Association will hold its annual reunion on June 1 and 2 on the Bacone College campus with registration beginning at 10 a.m., June 1 in the Palmer Center.

All alumni are invited to attend the events which will begin with a picnic hosted by the college on the evening of June 1 and will end with a banquet and social hour on the evening of June 2.

The members of Company I, who are alumni of Bacone College, will be the honored guests on June 2. Company I is the famed regiment of Native American soldiers in the 45th Infantry during World War II.

A block of rooms has been reserved at the Muskogee Inn, located at 2360 E. Shawnee across from the campus. Reservations can be made by calling the inn at (918) 683-6551 or 1 (800) 783-0103. Special room rates of $38 plus tax will be available to the Bacone College alumni.

For more information, contact Joann Landrum or Roseanne Spinks at (918) 683-4581.

Haskell class of 61 holding 40th reunion

LAWRENCE, Kan. — Haskell Institute graduates of 1961 are holding their 40th class reunion in conjunction with homecoming weekend Oct. 12 through 14.

All 1961 high school and postgraduates (commercial and vocational) of Haskell Institute as well as other alumni are encouraged to attend class of 61 reunion activities.

For a complete 1961 40th reunion information packet, call or write: Dempsey Micco, (785)842-8945, P.O. Box 4175, Lawrence, KS 66046 or Flo Tanner Spotted Bear, (918) 342-6403, 25078 S. 4205 Road, Inola, OK 73046.

Haskell 2001 homecoming shirts and 1961 yearbooks are for sale currently. For more information, contact Jean Wacoche Wilson at (918) 756-2318.

Citizen meets president

OKLAHOMA CITY — Yuchee tribal citizen Raymond Washburn of Oklahoma City recently met President George W. Bush at the opening of the Oklahoma City National Memorial Center in February.

Washburn operated a snack bar in the Alfred P. Murrah Building and survived the 1995 bombing that killed 168 people.

submitted photo

Raymond Washburn, right, chats with George W. Bush at the Feb. 19 opening of the Oklahoma City National Memorial Center

Bacone College seeking adjunct faculty

MUSKOGEE — Bacone College is seeking qualified tribal members for adjunct faculty positions in most academic areas.

Applicants must possess a masters' degrees or a minimum of 18 postgraduate hours in the teaching field. Interested persons should send a resume and copies of all transcripts to: Dave Norfolk, dean, Bacone College, 2299 Old Bacone Road, Muskogee, OK 74403.

Bacone College is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Society

Bristow boy celebrates second birthday

BRISTOW — Eco Tasahce Barnett celebrated his second birthday on April 1 with a *tafvmpece* dinner and dinosaur party theme at Bristow Indian Community Center.

Barnett

Barnett belongs to the Deer Clan and Ocevpofv Tribal Town and is the son of the Wind Clan and Kvncate Tribal Town.

Among those attending were: his parents, Roger and Stephanie Barnett of Bristow; paternal grandparents, Rachel Barnett and Joseph Barnett, both of Bristow; maternal grandparents, Jo Ann Skaggs of Albuquerque, N.M. and Michael and Julia Berryhill of Henryetta; great-grandparents, Nicey Wilson of the Kvncate area and Thomas Berryhill of Wilson Community; great-aunt and uncles, Lydia and Newman Taryole of Bristow and Jacob Barnett of Depew and many other relatives and friends.

Barnett attends Muscogee Nation Okmulgee Child Development Center and was April student of the month.

Business

Citizen starts communications business

OKMULGEE — Okmulgee tribal citizen Bryan McGertt recently started the communications business "Quality Communications"

His business can design, manage, install and maintain custom network solutions for companies.

"Quality Communications is committed to providing unparalleled customer service — from design and installations to management and maintenance serving our customers' needs. Our goal is complete customer satisfaction."

For more information, contact McGertt at (918) 756-1653 or e-mail swtgrass@juno.com.

Reunions-gatherings

Chalakee-Berryhill Reunion

BROKEN ARROW — The Chalakee-Berryhill Family reunion will be held May 26th through May 28th at Springtown United Methodist Church.

Family and friends of Fannie M. Berryhill Chalakee and the late Rev. John Chalakee are invited to attend the annual reunion.

Weekend activities include: 7 p.m., May 26 — an auction; May 27 — morning worship; lunch; horseshoe contest; volleyball games; and games for all ages.

For more information, call (918) 486-5461.

Wacoche Reunion

MUSKOGEE — The annual Wacoche Family Reunion has been scheduled for May 26 at 2 p.m. at Wacoche Hall on the campus of Bacone College.

Volleyball games, horseshoes, and a potluck dinner will be held. Wadie Wacoche will be the master of ceremonies. Those attending are encouraged to bring lawn chairs.

For more information, call Jean Wacoche Wilson at (918) 756-2318.

Scott Reunion

TULSA — The descendants of Samuel and Nancy McIntosh Scott or Daniel Scott, John Scott, Benny Scott, and Hepsey Scott Lewis are holding the 11th Scott Family Reunion from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., June 9.

The reunion will be held at Tulsa Creek Community Center located at 8611 S. Union.

Each attending family is requested to bring a covered dish. For more information, contact Lillie McIntosh at (918) 836-7931 or Helena McIntosh Girod at (918) 451-1932.

Loca'pokv Tribal Town picnic

JENKS — All members and descendants of Loca'pokv Tribal Town are invited to a picnic to be held at 1 p.m., June 2 at Perryman Ranch, 11524 S. Elwood.

Gates will open at 11 a.m. Hamburgers will be provided; those attending are requested to bring casseroles, salads, desserts, and soft drinks of choice.

Members may hike, fish, or play ball until dark. Those interested in staying for a barbecue supper at 7 p.m. may make reservations with Monetta Trepp by calling (918) 742-1002.

ELIZABETH CHAMBERLAIN

MUSKOGEE — Funeral services for Elizabeth Davis Chamberlain were held March 31 at Faith Deliverance Christian Center with Rev. Ralph Boyattia officiating.

She was born April 15, 1919 in Pierce to Mitch and Mary Deere Goudeau. She died on March 21 at St. Francis Hospital in Wichita, Kan.

Chamberlain attended school at Hanna and was baptized at an early age. She attended the Church of the Living God.

Chamberlain met and married David Davis. After this marriage was dissolved, she married Robert C. Chamberlain Sr.

She was known for her "soul food cooking" and her willingness to help people.

She was preceded in death by: her parents, both husbands; three sisters, Rosetta Currin Goudeau, Alice Brunner, and Annie Mae Jordon; three brothers, Willie, Frank, and Don Goudeau; a son, Robert Davis Sr.; a grandson, Robert "Bubba" Davis Jr.; a granddaughter, Debbie Evans; and a great-granddaughter, D'Shana Simmons; and foster daughter, Dollie Adams.

She is survived by: four sons, Dee Davis, Tommy Chamberlain, both of Wichita, Kan., Marion Chamberlain, of Tallahassee, Fla., and Ricky Davis of Muskogee; 11 daughters, Helen Johnson, Suzy Morris, Tiny Teague, Marianne Bolden, Evelyn Avery, and Stella Childers, all of Muskogee, Patricia Taylor, Robbie Holt, Lynnell Mack, and Millicent Charles, all of Wichita, and Jacqueline Cazenave of Coweta; eight special children; five brothers, Connie of Phoenix, Ariz., Freddie of Okmulgee, and Mitch, Leroy, and Alfred Goudeau, all of Hoffman; 83 grandchildren; 102 great-grandchildren; six great-great-grandchildren; and many other relatives and friends.

Casket bearers were: Dr. Robert Johnson; Timmy Davis, Roy Antoine Teague; Prentice Phillips; Wyman Taylor Jr.; Bryan Taylor; Robbie Taylor; Roger Taylor; Byron Jones; Kenneth Mack Jr.; Kaston Mack; Reu Chamberlain; Reggie Cazenave Jr.; and Donta Davis.

Interment was at Taft City Cemetery.

PEARLINE DAY

HENRYETTA — Funeral services for Pearline Day were held April 9 at Shurden Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Mitchell Taylor officiating.

Wake services were held April 8 at the chapel.

She was born Jan. 14, 1923 in Dustin to Henry and Yarner Watson Day. She died April 5 in Okmulgee.

Day was an Okmulgee resident for 45 years. She received a degree in culinary arts at Oklahoma State University Technical School and was head cook with Eufaula Boarding School for 18 years, retiring in 1988. She was a member of the Thlewahle Baptist Church.

Preceding her in death were: her parents; four brothers, Bob Day, Roman Beaver, Otis Day, and Bill Day; sons, Henry Jennings and Tommy Curran; grandson, Kevin Ray Jennings; and great-granddaughter, Rae-Lynn Sills.

She is survived by: four sons, Danny Day of Owasso, James and Bobby Jennings, both of Okmulgee, and Kenny Jennings of Okemah; two daughters, Jean LeGrand of Okmulgee and Lou Hudson of Luther; 21 grandchildren; and 22 great-grandchildren.

Gravehouse blessing ceremony held at Big Cussetah Church cemetery

MORRIS — On March 25 a gravehouse blessing ceremony was conducted at the gravesite of Sallie Beaver Moore.

She was a lifelong member of the church. Moore passed away last June. "The service was performed in observance of an ancient tradition of the Muscogee people," said widower Edwin S. Moore Sr. Rev. Harry Long conducted the ceremony and was assisted by Lyle Deere.

The gravehouse was built and put in place by Elmer Jones and his son, Floyd.

submitted photo

Pictured at the gravesite are Rev. Harry Long and Lyle Deere, both of Muskogee.

Pallbearers were: Phillip Agee; Michael LeGrand; Tony Day; Clint Jennings; Kirby Jennings; and Caleb Hudson.

Interment was at Robertson Cemetery.

DARVIN WILLIE

MORRIS — Funeral services for Darvin Wayne "Wilson" Willie were held April 7 at Big Cussetah Church with Revs. Jim Alexander, Sonny Brasswell, and Willie Johnson officiating.

Wake services were held April 6 at the church.

Willie died April 4 at Hillcrest Medical Center in Tulsa. He was born in Claremore to George T. and Maryland Harjo Willie.

Preceding him in death were: his parents; one brother, Sam Willie; and one great-nephew, Anthony Stout.

He is survived by: his wife, Tess Willie of the home; two daughters, Tricia Alley American Horse and Jennifer Rosales, both of Tulsa; four sisters, Georgia "Maxine" Layton of Okmulgee, Carolyn John of Idabel, Katherine "Kay" Willie, and Christine "Christy" Berryhill, both of Morris; one brother, Johnny Willie of Morris; six grandchildren; and many other relatives and friends.

Pallbearers were: Jerry Roberts; Joe Factor Jr.; Lindell Berryhill Sr.; Jeff Murphy; Gary Oberly; Tommy Morgan; and Richard Morgan.

Interment was at Big Cussetah Church Cemetery.

Gratitude

When a loved one passes, the only comfort comes from the thoughtfulness of friends, family, and God.

We would like to take this time to express our deepest heartfelt appreciation to those who shared with us at our time of grief.

The beautiful floral offerings reminds us of the beauty around us as we go through each day.

The many phone calls and food offerings that we received reminds us that our physical body feeds off of the kindness of our many friends.

The many prayers that were offered up to God on our behalf are greatly appreciated and was uplifting to us. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

— James A. Pickering Family

Religion

Wewoka Methodist schedules May revival

YEAGER — Wewoka Indian United Methodist Church is holding a revival from May 9 through 11.

Preachers include: May 9 — Rev. Fernando Padilla from Stillwater; May 10 — Rev. Pam Shirk of Konawa; and May 11 — Clarence Yarholar from Norman.

Services will begin at seven nightly.

To get to the church from the intersection of U.S. Highway 270 and state highway 48, drive three miles east and seven miles north on Yeager Road.

Wekiwa Baptist Church holding revival

TULSA — Wekiwa Baptist Church is holding a revival from May 31 to June 3.

Preachers will be: May 31 through June 2 — Rev. Norman Daniels and on June 3 — Rev. Mitchell Taylor. The song leader will be Bob Tarbell and the pianist will be Juanita Kelly.

Evening services will begin at 7:30 nightly and Sunday services will begin at 11 a.m. Refreshments will be served after services.

For more information, contact Johnson Wisdom at (918) 834-9776.

Many Springs Baptist holding homecoming

HOLDENVILLE — Many Springs Baptist Church is holding its annual homecoming on June 9 and 10.

For more information, call Leona Buck Brooks at (405) 379-7264 or Jeanette Harjo Davis at (405) 390-3943.

A continental breakfast will be served at 9 a.m., June 9 followed by games, story telling, lunch, then dinner; a gospel singing will begin at 7 p.m. Church services and a potluck dinner will be held on June 10

The church is located five miles south of Holdenville on state highway 48 and one mile east.

McCaleb

continued from page 3

statement saying, "It is a source of great pride to have such an outstanding Chickasaw citizen appointed to this position. Mr. McCaleb is a dedicated professional with a long history of distinguished service in the state of Oklahoma and there is no doubt he will provide excellent leadership at the Bureau of Indian Affairs."

It remains to be seen whether or not McCaleb's membership on the board of the proposed Chickasaw Nation Bank will be a stumbling block during his confirmation hearing. The Chickasaw Bank will be one of the first banks wholly owned by a tribe.

Rep. Brad Carson, D-Okla., said he is pleased with the selection of McCaleb for the top position of the BIA and was excited to see someone who was not only well qualified, but from Oklahoma nominated.

Cherokee Nation Principal Chief Chad Smith said the Cherokee Nation is supporting McCaleb's nomination. "We are pleased that the Bush administration selected an Indian from Oklahoma to head the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Neal McCaleb has valuable knowledge of Oklahoma tribes and has an understanding of our unique place in history and federal policy.

"He has expressed a willingness to listen and is approachable. Those attributes are the foundation for building positive and constructive relationships. We look forward to doing that with McCaleb."

Those in McCaleb's office said they have been instructed not to speak to the media. McCaleb would say only, "I am honored and humbled by President Bush's confidence in considering me for a position of service to the Indian community.

"This is an important position affecting Oklahoma Indians and tribal governments, as well as those throughout the nation, and comes at a time of great challenges facing tribal and Indian issues.

"There is a clear need for improvement in Indian economic development conditions and reconciliation of individual Indian trust accounts, and I look forward to discussing these issues at the appropriate time during my confirmation hearings before the Senate.

"I hope to be a part of the effort to improve the quality of life for every American Indian, Alaskan Native and Native Hawaiian."

Little information is being released from the BIA public information offices either, so the mystery remains. Who is Neal McCaleb, and what will he do if appointed as the assistant secretary of Indian Affairs?

Smaller tribes in Oklahoma have had problems in the past with taxation issues and some road projects during McCaleb's stint in the Oklahoma government. At one point McCaleb found himself at the center of controversy over a road project in the Oklahoma City area known as the "Outer Loop Project." A proposed highway was to be built through a Kickapoo burial site. The tribe was not contacted by Transportation and participated in a successful campaign to stop the project. In February 1999, McCaleb announced the project would not go through because of 3,000 letters received in protest.

Outside of Oklahoma, many questions arise from land-based tribes, as to whether McCaleb understands reservation issues at all.

Duane Sherman, chairman of the Hoopa Valley Tribe in California, said he is very concerned about McCaleb's qualifications and understanding of Indian country outside the boundaries of Oklahoma.

"I question the strength of his background in Indian affairs. The agencies he has been involved in haven't been the most progressive on Indian affairs," Sherman said. "It seems as if in the Bush administration, many of the issues affecting tribes today, like big business versus tribal interests, fly in the face of the tribes.

"What I mean by big business are things like mining and toxic storage and so forth. The worst environmental problems exist in Indian reservations. These are unregulated frontiers that with eased federal restrictions can be devastating to tribal interests. However, if McCaleb is appointed, I look forward to working with him on these issues. I'm just very concerned at the outset."

Chairman Jon Black Hawk of the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska said he believes McCaleb is less likely to favor the agenda of the land-based tribes whose issues differ from tribes in states such as Oklahoma.

"People in Oklahoma get a lot more attention than we do," Black Hawk said. "Their situation is different from ours. I think that will be the consistent message we will hear from Aberdeen (area office). I think that is what happens when you have someone that comes from an area where they don't have treaties ingrained in their minds."

One of the few people who worked with McCaleb, and was willing to talk about him, was Democrat Oklahoma State Sen. Enoch Kelly Haney, Seminole. Haney served with McCaleb in the Oklahoma House.

"I've known Neal for a long time. I think he will make a very good assistant secretary. He did have some conflicts here with the tribes over some gas compacts, but at the same time he was head of the transportation department ... I think he will have the same kind of commitment when he gets to the Bureau of Indian Affairs. He understands tribal sovereignty and my feeling is he has commitment to it."

Haney said that when McCaleb was in House he had given the Five Civilized Tribes more attention than the smaller tribes, but he believes that McCaleb would work well with all the tribes.

"I've worked with him for a long, long time. He is committed to the task at hand. I just haven't been involved with him on tribal government issues on a national scale for a long time ... I don't think his life-style is in the Indian world, it has not been, but I think he is sensitive to the issues."

Muscogee People

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the heart of our own traditions."

Marks also points out how the discipline that is gleaned from the martial arts benefits Native American Individuals. Marks says "martial arts teaches the student how to defend himself from himself. He learns to defend his inner being from his own wrong perceptions of the world and his own negative self-image, for man's biggest enemy is himself. By replacing fears with confidence and bad habits with self-control and concentration, a martial artist learns to value himself. The way someone feels about and treats themselves governs how they feel toward and treat others. Discipline is very important, for it is truly the philosophy of the martial arts and is a way of life."

Marks became interested in the martial arts at the age of 12. "I grew up in the boarding school and found martial arts to be a good way to bring spirituality to our native people." After attending the Tae Kwon Do Academy in Massachusetts and a tour of duty overseas in the Armed Forces, Marks returned to Oklahoma to fulfill, what he calls his "impossible dream."

"I wanted to return to Oklahoma and teach our people, especially our children, and to do it without charging a penny. Some people thought I was crazy to not charge anything, but it was an impossible dream of mine — so in 1975 I returned home and began to teach karate at the Native American Center in Oklahoma City. I fulfilled my impossible dream, I was able to instruct the youth without charging anything."

The uniqueness of Marks as a native person in the world of martial arts has not only been noticed by the local media, but the national as well. In 1979 Marks appeared in an article entitled "Native Americans in the Martial Arts" which appeared in Karate Illustrated Magazine.

Marks considers a highlight of his life as being asked to conduct a seminar at the Black Belt Hall of Fame in Cleveland, Ohio in 1999 and is among the nominees to be inducted into the hall of fame this year. In March of 1999 Marks obtained the highest rank of 5th degree black belt or *Go-Dan*. Marks credits his Sensei R.D. Hondolero for helping immensely.

Marks resides in Oklahoma City with his wife, Thomasine, son, Hok-She-Na-Tonkha, and daughter Yafke Kolvawa.

Newspaper seeks submissions for senior high and college graduates

OKMULGEE — The staff of *The Muscogee Nation News* is seeking submissions from Muscogee senior high and college graduates for its annual graduates' section.

The section will run in the June issue of *The MNN*. To have a graduation announcement published in this annual section include:

- the roll number of the graduate (if the roll number is not known, include the Social Security number or date of birth and the graduate's full name);
- a focused, color or black and white photograph with good contrast (photos are optional); and
- include information such as school name and city, parents, grandparents, awards, activities, and plans and ahere to a word limit around 115.

The deadline for submissions is May 25. Mail submissions to: P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

For more information, call: (918) 756-8700, ext. 312.

Notices

continued from page 5

- look for cuts, cracks, splinters, blisters, and calluses on the feet each day. Call a doctor if such wounds do not heal after one day;
- wash feet in warm — not hot — water and dry them well.;
- when trimming toenails, cut them straight across and slightly round the edges with an emery board;
- Rub lotion on the tops and bottoms of feet — but not between the toes — to prevent cracking and drying;
- Wear soft, dry socks and supportive, enclosed shoes (not sandals) that fit well and protect the feet;
- When sitting, keep the blood flowing to lower limbs by propping feet up and moving toes and ankles for a few minutes at a time;
- Keep blood sugar level under control by eating healthy foods, staying active, and taking diabetes medicines.

To order a free copy of the "Take Care of Your Feet for a Lifetime" booklet, call the National Diabetes Education Program at 1 (800) 438-5383 or visit the NDEP web site at http://ndep.nih.gov and click on "Health Care Provider Reference Tools" to download a copy of the booklet.

The Muscogee Nation News

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Power shifts in Senate

Power shifts in Senate
By Brian Stockes
Indian County Today

WASHINGTON - Moderate Sen. Jim Jeffords, I-Vt., may have handed Indian country a silver-lined opportunity to move forward with a little more ease than first thought with the 107th Congress.

The balance of power in the U.S. Senate has shifted as Jeffords jumped from the Republican Party to become an Independent. This move gives the Democrats control of the Senate for the first time in seven years. This means the Democrats will now gain the majority leadership positions and head all committees. For Indian country this means that the chairmanship of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, held by Sen. Ben Nighthorse Campbell, R-Colo., goes to Senator Daniel Inouye, D-Hawaii.

"He'll now be called chairman and I'll be called vice-chairman, but we'll continue to do what we've

please see **POWER**..., page 3

Head Start Little Olympics

photos by Gerald Wofford

Sapulpa/Tulsa Head Start Little Olympics teamates Devon Bower, left, and Rayce Noah, right, "high five" on a job well done. Muscogee Nation tribal Head Start centers' youth, numbering at 250, turned out for annual Okmulgee event which offers them the opportunity for friendly competition in track-related events.

Muscogee People

Muscogee man graduates from medical school

By Gerald Wofford

In 1988, a young Muscogee (Creek) man would drop out of the University of Oklahoma. After entering the university's prestigious engineering program, the young man found the realities of obtaining a degree in this field would be difficult — coupled with the fact that he had taken a wife and would soon start a family.

Harjo

Faced with these difficult odds, the young man placed his family's priorities above his own and sought out to make a living. In the process of providing for his family, he would find peace with his God, and answer the call to becoming an ordained minister.

He stayed in the area of Norman for a while, eventually deciding to go back to his hometown of Sapulpa — doing odd jobs from grounds keeper at a nearby golf course to maintenance duties at various facilities.

The desire to finish college and obtain a degree was still remained within him. The young man was now in his mid-twenties, the average age when most people have finished college. With a third child on the way, the young man decided he would go back to school on a full-time basis. The idea of obtaining an engineering degree had changed. Now the young man decided, through a calling from God, decided he would become a doctor — a medical doctor.

Realizing this type of degree and field is quite demanding, and with an ever growing family to feed, the young man became even more determined and set out to fulfill his calling.

This time there would be no dropping out and even at times when the breaks of life seemed to be against him, he continued toward his goal. On May 12 of this year it officially became a reality.

Jim B. Harjo or Dr. Jim B. Harjo graduated from the University of Oklahoma State College of Osteopathic

please see **MUSCOGEE PEOPLE**..., page 7

Election code amended; general election date changes

OKMULGEE — The National Council approved to amend the Muscogee Nation Election Code (National Council Act 99-20) which will changed the general election date to November.

Filing and election dates for National Council are:

- candidate filing — 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., August 20 through 22;
- primary election — Sept. 22; and
- general election —Nov. 13.

All enrolled Muscogee Nation tribal members are eligible to vote, but must have valid registration in order to do so.

Election board staff requests that information be updated regarding: changes of address (address changes related to 911 included); name changes; and informing the office of deaths of registered voters.

For more information on candidate filing, primary or general election dates, registration information, or to update an address, call the election board office at (918) 756-8700, extensions 294 or 349.

Letters to the editor

Association president appreciates help

Editor:

I would like to offer a big *mvto* to all of the volunteers who turned out to help us, to those who came and purchased the wild onion dinner, and to *The Muscogee Nation News* for advertising the wild onion dinner held at the Oklahoma City Muscogee (Creek) Association building in Oklahoma City on March 24th. It was a great success.

Blue Clark, Oklahoma City

Editor's note: Clark is the president of the association

Concern over Council attendance expressed

Editor:

For the past several issues of *The Muscogee Nation News*, I have noticed that there has not been a report of the attendance and voting record of our Council members.

It is important and the right of the communities to be made aware of how we are being represented. Why has this information ceased and at whose request?

Elections are not far off, therefore we need to know the record of each Council member so that we may act accordingly. I hope to see this information published in the future issues.

Susan Mills, Broken Arrow

Editor's note: Until August 2000 *The Muscogee Nation News* editor had access to the unofficial attendance and voting records of the regular, quarterly, and emergency sessions via the National Council "roll call." Speaker Wilbur Gouge discontinued this practice because of concern regarding the potential for publication of erroneous information generated from this roll call before minutes were officially approved by the National Council. Session minutes for each month are routinely approved during the following month. For example, the minutes for the May 19 regular session will not be approved until the June 30 regular session, making them unavailable for publication, with official attendance and voting records, until the July issue. Certainly this is a valid and, with upcoming Council elections, timely concern. The issue regarding the disclosure of attendance and voting records for future publication of Council overviews will be resolved. Official Council voting and attendance records from January through July 2001 will be published in the September issue of *The MNN*.

Miss Mvskoke Nation reflects on "amazing" year

It has been a great honor to represent the people of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. I hope that I have represented you to the best of your expectations.

Throughout my reign I have met many people — some from my own tribe, some from other tribes — who have taught me more than I ever thought I would learn about myself, culture, traditions, and my people. The greatest and most memorable time that I will always remember was standing on the floor of the University of New Mexico's "The Pit" in Albuquerque during the grand entry of North America's biggest pow wow — The Gathering of Nations. Standing there, I saw all kinds of Indians, more than 3,000, dancers of 700 tribes from throughout the U.S. and Canada. There, it didn't matter that I was from a tribe in which pow wows are not a part of our culture; it was about all tribes and nations coming together to learn about each other.

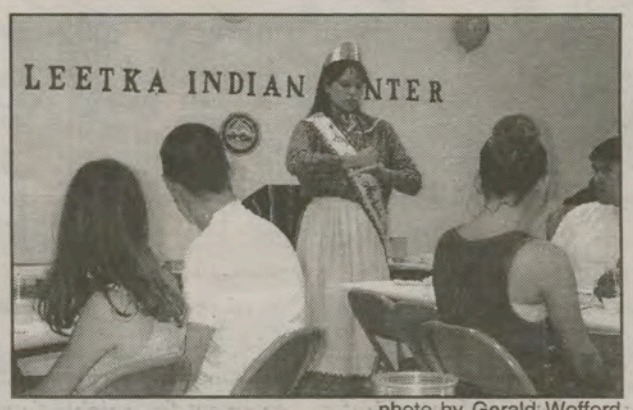


photo by Gerald Wofford

Miss Mvskoke Nation Sunny Roberts performs the "Lord's Prayer" in Indian sign language at the recent Weleetka Johnson O'Malley banquet.

The period of the last year has given me the opportunity to not only represent my nation, but my family and the people and place that have taught me the traditions that I know today — Nuyaka Ceremonial Ground.

Holding the title of Miss Mvskoke Nation is something that I am very proud of and will hold dear to my heart and never forget. I would like to thank the people who encouraged and helped me to get this title, those who helped me through it, and those who will stand next to me when I pass it on to someone else. Thank you, the people of the Muscogee Nation for this opportunity to represent you. It has been an amazing year.

May District Court filings

Protective orders:

- Marie Fields Washington vs. James Williams
- Stella Roberts vs. Wilbur Hobia
- Belinda Wacoche vs. Curtis Williamson
- Robin Cooper vs. Carl Holland

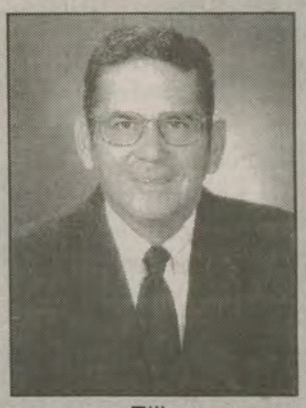
Civil/Small Claims:

- In the matter of the appeal of the denial of a gaming license for Kenneth L. Childers
- Susie Deere vs. Eufaula Indian Community Board of Directors
- Royal Finance vs. Amber Fixico

Second opinion

by Second Chief A.D. Ellis

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Ted Isham and family back to Okmulgee and Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Ted was recently selected as curator for the Creek Council House Museum in Okmulgee. His experience with Muscogee culture and people have made him a wise choice for the City of Okmulgee-owned and operated museum.



Ellis

On May 17th, several Muscogee citizens attended a dinner at the Doubletree Hotel to honor former Second Chief Shelly Crow. Shelly was honored by Tulsa Community College as one of 30 graduates who have excelled in their professions. Congratulations Shelly Crow.

The constitutional meetings have continued and planned input should begin soon. Hopefully, we can improve our tribal government operations. I hope to have more on this subject in the future.

On May 22 a Johnson O'Malley senior appreciation night was held at Weleetka Indian Community. We had a great dinner and a very interesting program which included some of our talented Muscogee students expressing themselves. Attending were: Tukvpvtce District Council Representative Bill Fife and his wife, Mary; Speaker Chebon Gouge and his wife, Cheryl; and me and my wife, Gail. Thanks to Weleetka JOM staff Sandy Golden and all the parents and members of the community.

If you see a brand new, white Mack dump truck with the Muscogee Nation seal traveling the roads, it's the driveway program's new truck. Thanks to the National Council for providing funds to improve our service to tribal citizens.

Good luck to the new officers of Hanna Indian Community. After a long, dormant period the community is again active and needs our support. I wish each of you success and am here to assist you in any way.

Don't forget about the tribal Community Health Representatives free screenings for high blood pressure, diabetes, and kidney disease at Green Country Technology Center from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., June 20.

Festival time is June 14th, 15th, and 16th. Let's all show up for remembering old times and old friends as well as making new memories and friends.

Quote of the month: *I'll take care of my character, my reputation will take care of itself.*

Mvto

The Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to ***The Muscogee Nation News***, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of every month.** ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Standard Class A from Okmulgee, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

Stephanie Barnett, managing editor
Gerald Wofford, photography
Denise Jacobs, page layout
Jennifer Taryole, circulation

Muscogee National Council overview

OKMULGEE — The following consists of actions of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council conducted at a May 7 emergency session and the May 19 regular session.

May 7 emergency session

In Council business it:

• approved unanimously (13-0-0) Tribal Resolution 01-14, approving the selection of contractors and authorizing the housing authority to execute contracts for rehabilitation work;

• approved unanimously (13-0-0) TR 01-15, approving the selection of a contractor and authorizing the housing authority to execute a contract for new construction of 45 homes;

• approved unanimously (13-0-0) National Council Act 01-85, authorizing a special appropriation to **James Fife** for expenses to attend the Washington Leadership Conference; and

• approved unanimously (13-0-0) NCA 01-86, authorizing a special appropriation to the Holdenville Dream Team for expenses to attend the Special Olympics of Oklahoma.

May 19 regular session

The National Council approved minutes for the following: April 24 planning session; April 28 regular session; and May 7 emergency session.

The following veto message was acted upon:

• NCA 01-22, authorizing the expenditure of expansion funds received for the Sapulpa Head Start Center, stands.

Speaker **Wilbur Gouge**, McIntosh District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

In unfinished business the Council:

• approved unanimously (23-0-0) NCA 01-56, directing the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Housing Authority to adopt new contracts and/or agreements with contractors; and

• approved unanimously (23-0-0), as amended, NCA 01-60, appropriating funds for the establishment of veterans affairs services for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

In Council business it:

• approved (22-1-0), as amended, TR 01-12, authorizing the principal chief and the gaming operations authority board to execute an attorney agreement between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer & Feld, L.L.P.;

• approved unanimously (23-0-0) TR 01-13, authorizing the president and secretary of the Muscogee Nation business enterprise to execute and submit an application for certification as a SBA 8(a) company;

• approved unanimously (23-0-0) TR 01-17, authorizing the principal chief to execute entry and a perpetual highway easement for a right-of-way across a parcel of property located in Okemah, designated as parcel 51.0 by the Oklahoma Department of Transportation;

• approved unanimously (23-0-0) TR 01-18, authorizing the principal chief to execute entry and a perpetual highway easement for a right-of-way across a parcel of property located in Okemah, designated as parcel 60 by the Oklahoma Department of Transportation;

• approved unanimously (23-0-0), as amended, NCA 01-15, appropriating funds to compensate Creek members on the Seminole Nation advisory health board;

• approved unanimously (23-0-0), as amended, NCA 01-65, amending § 103.A. of NCA 92-95, Tulsa smokeshop act, as amended;

• tabled NCA 01-66, amending NCA 96-41 and NCA 96-03 (as amended by NCA 98-34) to grant the principal chief the authority to sell cattle, crops, and equipment that belong to the farm;

• approved (21-2-0), as amended, NCA 01-71, appropriating $2,875 to the Soweka girls basketball team for the All-West Native American Basketball Classic in Denver, Colo.;

• approved unanimously (23-0-0), as amended, NCA 01-72, authorizing the expenditure of funds for the reimbursement to the Eufaula Indian Community for the delivery services for the homebound elderly nutrition program;

• approved (22-0-0) NCA 01-81, requesting a supplemental appropriation for the social services food for funerals program for the remainder of fiscal year 2001;

• approved (22-0-0) NCA 01-82, appropriating funds for the Oklahoma City Creek Association;

• approved (22-0-0) NCA 01-83, authorizing the expenditure of Low Income Heat and Energy Assistance Program funds for the social services program;

• approved (21-2-0), as amended, NCA 01-84, authorizing a special appropriation for the unpaid funeral expenses of a Muscogee (Creek) elder;

• approved (22-0-0) NCA 01-87, authorizing the expenditure of title IV-B match for children and family services and appropriating the match;

• approved (21-0-0) NCA 01-88, amending sections 206-208, 251-291 of the code of laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to be codified in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Supreme court rules of appellate procedure;

• approved (22-0-0) NCA 01-89, authorizing a special appropriation to the Tahlahvse Ceremonial Ground (Cromwell) for their Green Corn ceremony;

• approved (22-0-0) NCA 01-91, amending NCA 00-68, § 102 and § 103 purpose and authorization of the principal chief to execute a USA track and field application for sanction, to be codified in title 38 of the Code of Laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation; and

• approved (22-0-0) NCA 01-92, amending NCA 99-143 and appropriating funds for continuation of the FY 1999 and FY 2000 water grants for the pre-development study of tribal water rights.

In items for consideration it:

• approved (19-3-0) TR 01-20 TR 01-20, endorsing the appointment of **Neal McCaleb** as assistant secretary for Indian affairs;

• approved (15-3) NCA 01-80, amending NCA 00-149 § 3-104 and § 3-105, providing for sales tax exemption for various tribal entities and for reduction in the temporary vendor's license fee, to be codified in title 36 of the Code of Laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation; and

• approved (22-0-0) NCA 01-93, authorizing the principal chief to submit an application to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for a community development block grant FY 2001 for a public facilities and improvement project (expansion of Sapulpa Indian Health Center).

Power

continued from page 1

been doing and that's focusing on the needs of Indian country," Campbell said. "This change may mean more to other committees, but we've always shared power." Sen. Campbell said the move will not affect the committee's agenda since he and Sen. Inouye have already been sharing the role of chairman in an informal capacity.

"He chairs one hearing and I'll chair another," Campbell said. "We respect each other and share the responsibility. We're both working for the good of the tribes."

Other committee chairmanships also will change, but it will be some time before the actual benefits to Indian country take effect, tribal leaders said.

"In terms of the Bush agenda, but especially in terms of ideas and nominations coming from the Interior Department, what this means is that the Democrats will have far greater control on what issues are heard, who is confirmed and how legislation is changed to meet environmental and social concerns," said Christopher Stearns, Navajo attorney at Hobbs, Straus, Dean & Wilder.

When the new administration took office, tribal leaders gathered with their various national organizations to plan a strategy that could most effectively move American Indian issues forward in the conservative-minded Congress and White House.

As it appears, Sen. Tom Daschle, D-S.D., a moderate will become the majority leader of the Senate. Daschle is a known quantity as a friend of Indian country and is sensitive to many of the issues affecting nations today. Daschle, along with committee chairmen, will have the power to promote legislation favorable to Indian country or stop legislation that is not. Daschle comes from a state where 10 percent of the population is American Indian.

"As a registered Democrat, I am pleasantly surprised to hear the news that the leadership in the U.S. Senate will change to the Democrats. While the majority/minority margin is still very close, I'm hopeful that Democratic senators will continue to work closely with their Republican colleagues," said Edward T. Begay, speaker of the Navajo Nation.

"Of course, the Navajo Nation will continue to work closely with all members of the U.S. Senate on addressing matters and issues pertinent to the Navajo Nation and other Indian tribes. I believe the level of commitment and advocacy of the Navajo Nation's Republican delegation in the Senate won't be lessened."

The strategies many tribes planned to use may have to change, but the education of staff members and Congressmen and women will continue to be a focal point of most tribes and organizations. The tribes had worked to educate the Democratic Congress before 1994 when the Republicans took control of both the House and Senate and now many tribal leaders said some of the same people who have been educated will return to power.

"We had established relationships and been able to work on the issues and keep people more current with the issues. And then the shift to Republican control and we started the education all over," said Melanie Benjamin, chief executive officer of the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe.

Benjamin said tribal leaders educated elected officials from both sides, but "had a lot of Democrats in our corner.

"I realize with the new administration, we would have a lot more work getting staffers to understand issues.

"We can never let our guard down, when people are educated, we have to make decisions based on need."

As for Jeffords, he said, "Increasingly, I find myself in disagreement with my party. I understand that many people are more conservative than I am and they form the Republican Party. Given the changing nature of the national party it has become a struggle for the leaders to deal with me and indeed for me to deal with them."

Jeffords will not leave the Republican party until after the president's tax bill has been worked out between the two houses of Congress.

Citizenship office to be open during festival

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee Nation Citizenship office will be open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., June 16 during Creek Nation Festival .

The office will be open for new enrollment. Citizens may update old citizenship cards by submitting them for replacement with a citizenship card with photo identification.

To ensure a citizenship applications is processed in a timely manner:

• complete the application for citizenship and list the name[s] of ancestor[s] and roll number[s] from the "Index and Final rolls of Citizens of the Five Civilized Tribes;"

• attach original state certified, full image of original birth record. This document will be signed by the state registrar, embossed with the state seal, and must list the state file number. If submitting "delayed" birth certificate or death certificate, include one supporting document that lists the parents' names (Social Security abstract, a school record, or a probated will which lists the person as an heir);

• submit state certified, full image of the original birth and/or death record[s] of non-enrolled ancestor[s] through whom lineal descent is being traced (For example: if applicant's mother is Creek and not enrolled, her birth record is needed in order to connect applicant to the first enrolled member);

• citizenship cards are issued only through the natural parents. In cases of adoption, quantum of Indian blood must be proven through the biological parents only. A copy of the petition for adoption and the final decree of adoption must accompany the application for enrollment, as well as the state certified, full image of original birth record. All information will remain confidential;

Completed applications accompanied with required documents may be sent to: Muscogee Nation, Attn. Citizenship Board, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

For more information, call (918) 756-8700, ext. 224.

Public hearing being held for child care fund

OKMULGEE — A public hearing for the Child Care Development Fund that is administered by the Muscogee Nation Office of Child Care will be held at 6:30 p.m., June 20.

The hearing will be held at the tribe's Okmulgee Child Development Center located on the tribal capitol complex at U.S. Highway 75 and Loop 56.

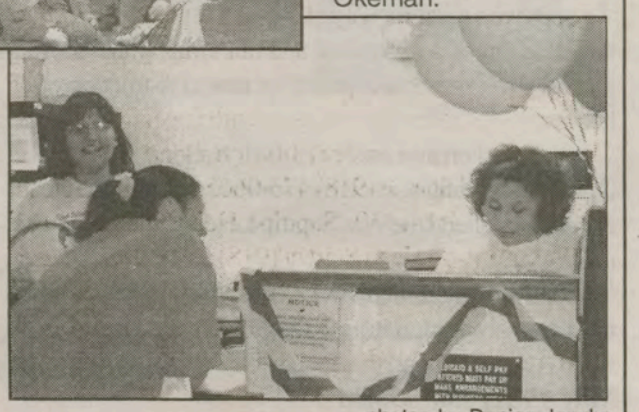
The Child Care Development Fund is a program that provides financial assistance for income eligible tribal citizens toward their monthly child care obligations.

Creek Nation Community Hospital Health Fair well attended

Right: Many area schools attended the health fair held in April at Creek Nation Community Hospital in Okemah.

Below: Carrie Jacobs, of Okemah, Okemah Child Development Center teacher's aide, attends the fair with her charge.

Below: Tina Bear, foreground, of Holdenville updates her chart registration with Okemah Health Center receptionists Jenna Lowe and Angie Yahola, both of Okemah.



photos by Denise Jacobs

Kidney screening offered by tribe and foundation

OKMULGEE — The office of Muscogee Nation Community Health Representatives, with the National Kidney Foundation, will be offering its Kidney Early Evaluation Program (K.E.E.P.) screening on June 20.

The K.E.E.P. screening will be offered at Green Country Technology Center, 1100 N. Loop 56, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The screening is available to anyone interested in the detection of early kidney disease with emphasis on people with diabetes, high blood pressure, or individuals with family members that have kidney disease, high blood pressure, or diabetes.

Among American Indians who have kidney failure, almost 65 percent of new cases of kidney disease are associated with diabetes, with the majority of the cases linked to type 2 diabetes. Diabetes has reached epidemic proportions among American Indians. Across the U.S., one out of five American Indians has diabetes compared to one out of 20 in the adult U.S. population — and that trend is moving upward.

In many cases, kidney failure can be prevented or delayed through early detection and proper treatment. The K.E.E.P. is a free health screening program for individuals at increased risk of developing kidney disease. Since 1997, the National Kidney Foundation has been offering K.E.E.P. screenings to inform participants of their risk for kidney disease and to encourage these individuals to seek further evaluation and follow-up from a physician.

The screening offers the following tests: blood pressure checks; blood test for glucose; blood test for hemoglobin level; urine dipstick test for hematuria; urine dipstick test for microalbumin; urine dipstick test for pyuria; blood test for creatinine; and calculated creatinine clearance.

Each participant will receive an exit interview with a nephrologist provided by the foundation. The program depends on the collaboration of community partnerships and involves the efforts of caring professionals and volunteers in the community who are committed to health care and the objectives of the program. The Muscogee Nation is the third tribe that has worked in collaboration with the foundation to provide this service.

Refreshments, door prizes, and the opportunity to visit other health related vendors will be available. The community health representatives will be checking blood pressure, blood sugar, and cholesterol levels also. The CHR office intends to plan the screening as a yearly event. Cyndi Harjo Gilks, acting CHR manager also said that the office will be

please see **NOTICES**..., page 5

Tribal program participates in Tobacco Education Orientation held in May

Right: Environmental Specialist Bill Breckinridge displays an open pollinated heirloom variety of the tobacco plant "Tennessee Burly." Breckinridge was one of the guest speakers at the Tobacco Education Orientation held May 22 at the Green Country Technology Center in Okmulgee.

Bottom: Dr. Tina Fields, Oklahoma State Department Health Outreach Coordinator, speaks about the Tobacco Prevention and Control Program in Oklahoma. Carla Brown, program administrative assistant, and Cynthia Coachman, coordinator of the Muscogee Nation Tobacco Prevention and Control Program look on.

photos by Gerald Wofford

Notices

Continued from page 4

scheduling K.E.E.P. screenings at Eufaula, Okemah, Bristow, Sapulpa and the Holdenville areas in the upcoming year.

For more information, contact the CHR office at (918) 756-1941 or 1 (888) 356-8494.

Tribal Head Start accepting applications

OKMULGEE — Muscogee Nation Head Start Centers in Checotah, Eufaula, Okmulgee, Sapulpa, Tulsa, Wilson, Yardeka, and Yeager are accepting applications for three and four-year-olds for the 2001-2002 school year.

Services provided for children with special needs are provided. For more information on Head Start, call: Checotah Head Start at (918) 473-0605; Okmulgee Head Start at (918) 758-1430; Sapulpa Head Start at (918) 248-7473; Wilson Head Start at (918) 652-3922; Yeager Head Start at (405) 379-6693; or Eufaula Head Start at (918) 618-6220.

Muscogee Nation Head Start programs participate in the Child and Adult Care Food Program. In accordance with federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability.

To file a compliant of discrimination: write, USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or call (202) 720-5964. The USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. Complaints may also sent to: Oklahoma State Department of Education, Child Nutrition Programs Section, Room 310, 2500 N. Lincoln Blvd., Oklahoma City, OK 73105-4599.

Muscogee Nation 4-H program seeks volunteers

OKMULGEE — Interest in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation 4-H program has become so great that there are more involved youth than their are adult volunteers to oversee the program events.

"The youth are increasingly active and willing to participate in this dynamic curriculum.... Unfortunately, the youth cannot fully participate without responsible, caring adults to assist them, " said Jamie Littlefield, Creek Nation 4-H Extension Educator.

Additionally, many clubs are in-the-making in Creek, Hughes, Okmulgee, Okfuskee, Tulsa, Wagoner, McIntosh, and Muskogee counties.

"Volunteers are needed in all areas, ranging from organizational club leader to project leader to parent of the month to transportation provider — just to name a few." Littlefield said. She will work with adult volunteers to find the "right fit" for where your interests and qualities are appropriately suited.

For more information, contact Littlefield, at (918) 756-8700, ext. 610 or toll free at 1 (800) 482-1979, ext. 610. Her office is located in the Human Development Building on the tribal capitol complex.

The 4-H program curriculum includes, but is not limited to: arts and crafts; horticulture; photography; public speaking; shooting sports; animal science; food and nutrition; citizenship; community service; and personal development.

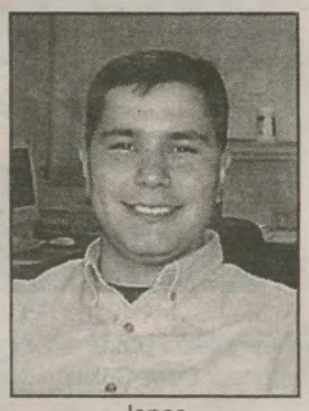
Littlefield said that she is extends gratitude to Indian community volunteers who currently serve in an advisory capacity to her.

"These individuals have stepped forward in an effort to provide our youth another opportunity to advance their knowledge, communication, and life skills through listening, learning and doing. Thank you board members, for your assistance, guidance and support. You are greatly appreciated and commended for sharing your time, experiences and resources for the 4-H cause."

Jones selected as IHS new engineer

OKMULGEE — Joseph L. Jones as the new environmental engineer for the Okmulgee Indian Health Service Environmental Health and Engineering Field Office.

He replaces the previous engineer, Ramsey Hawsley, now works in IHS headquarters in Maryland.



Jones

Jones is a member of the Kaw and Otoe–Missouria tribes of Oklahoma.

Joseph enjoys participating in many of the dances and powwows throughout the state, likes play a basketball, softball, and golf, and also enjoys hunting, fishing, and hiking.

Jones said he is excited about taking on the challenges that face the Okmulgee Environmental Health and Engineering Field Office and is honored to be serving the Indian people in the Creek Nation service area. He said he is also eager to get acquainted with people while performing his duties as a field engineer in the community, "but if you would like to say hello when you are on the Creek Nation complex, please stop in."

Author seeks to profile "invisible Indians"

EL CERRITO, CA — Journalist "David Arv Bragi" would like to hear from Indians who either cannot convince the government that they are Native American, have been unable to enroll in their own tribe, or belong to an unrecognized tribe.

Bragi, editor of the multicultural webzine New Tribal Dawn, plans to tell the life stories of First Nations people who have fallen through the cracks in the recognition and enrollment bureaucracies in an upcoming book tentatively titled "Invisible Indians."

"My interest stems from one of history's little jokes that I share with my wife," says Bragi. "Dolores is Yaqui/Mayo/Diegueno/Aztec/Seminole and has olive skin, dark hair, and a heart-shaped face. I am Mvskoke/Seminole and, with a lower blood quantum, have pale skin, light hair, and a European face. We have both considered ourselves mixed-blood since childhood.

"Her ancestors never enrolled in a tribe because they lived in areas where it was dangerous to be known as an Indian, whereas my family lived in Oklahoma, where the government actively encouraged enrollment. So, according to officialdom, I am Indian and she is white. At Native gatherings, we make a great conversation piece.

"On a more serious level, this highlights our flawed recognition and enrollment systems, under which individuals, families, and entire tribes are denied their sovereign rights as they struggle to follow the red road of their ancestors."

Bragi invites people to contact him who self-identify as native, Indian, First Nations etc. but cannot convince officials of their heritage for such reasons as:

- belonging to an unrecognized or terminated tribe or band;
- lacking birth records, roll numbers, or other required documents;
- having been raised off-reservation or having a low blood quantum;
- having been denied enrollment or recognition for political reasons;
- feeling socially pressured to deny native heritage.

While not making judgments upon either group, he does not desire contact with genealogy hobbyists who have only a vague interest in their native ancestry or recruitment groups formed solely for the purpose of establishing Indian casinos.

Bragi is the pen name of Steven David Anderson, a Muscogee tribal citizen. In addition to editing New Tribal Dawn (www.grailmedia.com/wzl/), he works as a freelance journalist, writes the Health Watch column for the online news site SF Gate (www.sfgate.com/health/), and is a member of the Native American Journalists Association and the Society of Professional Journalists.

Contact Bragi at bragi@grailmedia.com or 747 Kearney St., El Cerrito CA 94530.

Tribe observes Memorial Day with ceremony

A Memorial Day ceremony, held at the Mvskoke Veterans' Memorial Monument, culminated in the laying of wreaths by the following individuals: Dugan McIntosh of Eufaula; Chuck McHenry of Broken Arrow; Shirley Almerigi of Okmulgee; Bunnie McCosar of Lafayette, GA.; Phillip Coon of Sapulpa; and Smiley Barnett of Dewar.

photo by Jennifer Taryole

1st Johnson O' Malley Challenge Bowl

Sapulpa High School

April 28th

Ethan Durbin, Ashton Chalakee, and Elizabeth Gray of Lvm-He #1 team of Morris Elementary School anticipate answers to Challenge Bowl questions.

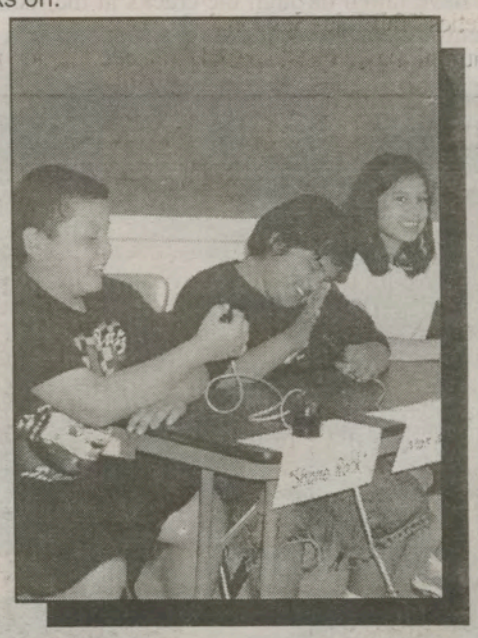
photos by Denise Jacobs

Ashley Berryhill and Robby and Bobby Bear of Wilson Tigers team prepare for the next toss up question while sponsor Doris Sullivan watches.

Bobby Bear and Ashley Berryhill are waiting for the next practice question while sponsor Doris Sullivan prepares them.

Justin Jones, John Beaver, team captain Jamie Martinez, and Gena McGirt of Eufaula High School score the winning points for this match while alternate Johnathon Francis, background, and an unidentified spectator looks on.

Kristi Henneha, Samantha Johnson, team captain for Eufaula Elementary, Aaron Harjo, and Tusa Beaver participate in group questions winning their match with 200 points.



Lvm-He #2 team members, Morris Elementary, Shane Rock, Matt Morgan, and team captain Crista McElhannon test their buzzers.

Keisha Hicks, Clifton Sands, Winter Alexander, and Justin Hicks of Mason Middle School wait on their competitors for the next match. Their sponsor, Peggy Fixico, is pictured in back.

Births

Onslow Wakeford

TULSA — Onslow Ethan Wakeford was born Jan. 19 at St. John's Hospital to Marcy Renee and Steve Wakeford of Jenks.

He weighed 9 pounds, 7 ounces and was 19 and one half inches in length.

Wakeford

His maternal grandparents are Ramona and Archie Mason and Andrew and Carmelita Skeeter, all of Tulsa.

Paternal grandparents are Sherry Wakeford of Tulsa and Steve and Judith Wakeford of McAlester.

Wakeford is of Muscogee, English, Scottish, Welsh, and Yuchi descent. He has one sister, Julia, age five.

Citizens fare well at Indian tennis championships

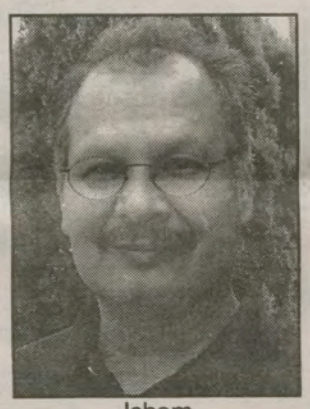
Right: Muscogee citizens Max Factor, foreground, of Muskogee and Loy Thomas, background, of Okmulgee play a match in the 55 and over singles event at the North American Indian Tennis Association Championships held in Tulsa May 26 through 28. Factor defeated Thomas in two straight sets with a score of 6-4, 6-4. Bottom right: Thomas, pictured right, and partner Billy Lewis of Duncanville, Texas won the consolation 45 and over doubles event 6-2, 6-7, 6-2.

photos by Gerald Wofford

Careers

Muscogee man selected as new curator

OKMULGEE — Muscogee citizen Ted Isham was recently selected as the new curator for the Creek Council House Museum.



Isham

Isham has studied anthropology and linguistics at the University of Oklahoma for six years. He has taught the Maskoke language at the university and community level since 1995 and is a founding member of the Mvskoke Language Institute, Oklahoma City. Isham is also a recipient of the Endangered Language Fund, awarded by Yale University, from which he has administered the Creek Language Immersion Project. He is currently the vice president of Oklahoma City (Muscogee) Creek Association.

A reception for Isham will be held at the Creek Council House Museum from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. on June 15.

He belongs to the Wind Clan and Tulmuchusse Tribal Town and is a member of Hillabee Ceremonial Ground.

Isham is the son of Christine Wolf of Lamar and the grandson of the late Cheparney Davis, Sasakwa, and Martha Bruner, Lamar.

He and his wife, Debra, have two daughters, Tina Isham-Amos and Sara Kernal.

Reunions

Tiger Family

TULSA — Friends and relatives of Kotchee, Bill, Edward, and Jeff Tiger are invited to attend a reunion to begin at 11 a.m., June 24 at Old Rock School, 2035 N. Kingston Place.

For more information, contact Coleen Young at (918) 835-0686.

Chilocco National Alumni Association

TULSA — The annual Chilocco National Alumni Association Reunion is scheduled for June 28 through July 1 at Sheraton Tulsa Hotel.

Reunion activities and events include: veterans' breakfast; pow wow; golf tournament; men's and women's basketball free-throw contests; banquet and dance; computer awareness workshop; and Letterman's "C" Club/Women's Athletics "Tall Tales Session."

Alumni may request special Chilocco reunion rates — $61 per night — by calling 1 (800) 325-3535. The special rate expires June 15.

For more information, contact Trent Tilley at: HC 70-Box 2830, Kingston, OK 73439; or (580) 564-1549.

Education news

Tobacco committee holding art contest

OKMULGEE — Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tobacco Health Education Committee is sponsoring an art contest entitled "Tobacco is Scared, Smoking is Not."

The contest is for youth in the following age categories: grades first through fifth; sixth through ninth; and 10th through 12th.

The artwork should reflect cultural values about not smoking. Artwork must be submitted to the Office of Tobacco Prevention and Control located on the Oklahoma State University-Okmulgee campus, Lackey Hall, third floor, by 4:30 p.m., June 15.

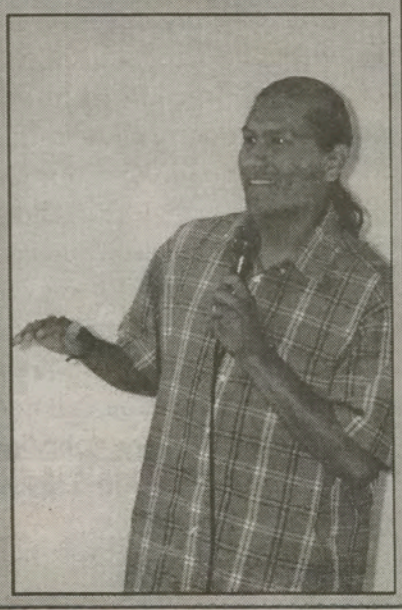
All work will be displayed. The top four winners will be featured in *The Muscogee Nation News* as well as a 2002 calendar.

For more information, contact Cynthia Coachman at 1 (800) 782-8291, ext. 285.

Weleetka Johnson O'Malley program holds banquet

Left: Pictured at Weleetka JOM banquet are sisters Katy, Junior Miss Mvskoke Nation, and Whitney Burden

photos by Gerald Wofford



Right: Motivational speaker Chance Rush of Shawnee speaks to Weleetka JOM students

Muscogee People

continued from page 1

Medicine. In June Harjo starts his residency at Hillcrest Medical Center in Tulsa.

Harjo, a member of the Liberty Faith Center ministerial staff, Glenpool, credits his faith with giving him the will to persevere. He sees his calling in the field of medicine as being an integral part of the overall ministry to every man, especially Native Americans. Not only does he minister to spiritual needs, but, now, the physical as well.

Harjo is the son of Duke, a Sapulpa District Council Representative, and Ellen. He and his wife, Beverly, live in Glenpool with daughters: Faith, 13; Joy, 10; Hope, eight; and Patience, six. The names of Harjo's children are symbolic of a strong determination and the eventual reward at the end of a long and sometimes difficult road to success.

27th Annual

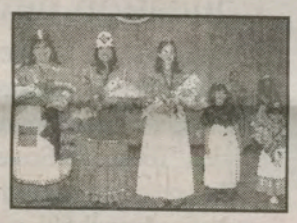
Creek Nation Festival

An Old Fashioned Homecoming

Festival highlights

Thurs., June 14
Pageant

At 7 p.m., June 14 the Miss Mvskoke Nation and Junior Miss Mvskoke Nation pageant will be held at the Claude Cox Omniplex Stage. The pageant will be held at the OSU-Extension Center, located on the Okmulgee County Fairgrounds, in the event of inclement weather.



The following are the contestants for Miss Mvskoke Nation (ages 17 to 21):

- Dawn Adrienne Thompson;
- Laura Anne Wilson.

The following are the contestant for Junior Miss Mvskoke Nation (ages 13 to 16):

- Jennifer Renae Kelly;
- Lydia Buckner;
- Whitney Anne Burden;
- Terra Beaver;
- Mallory Bible;
- Talia Culley; and
- Jessica Jean Guthrie.

The deadline date for applications has passed, therefore no additional entries will be accepted. The pageant is being coordinated by the Muscogee Nation Office of Child Care. For more information, call (918) 758-1463 or 1 (800) 205-3705.

Fri., June 15
Junior Olympics

The junior olympics will begin at 8:30 a.m., June 15 at the omniplex track. The olympics offer Indian youth ages six to 15 the opportunity to compete in track events.

The events are: 30 meter dash; 50 meter dash; 100 meter dash; 200 meter dash; 400 meter dash; 400 meter relay; one mile run; hoop shot; and softball throw.

The deadline date for registration has passed, therefore no additional participants will be accepted. The olympics are being coordinated by the Muscogee Nation Children and Family Services. For more information, call (918) 756-2112 or 1 (800) 521-5432.

Golf tournament

A golf scramble will begin at 1 p.m., June 15 at Cobblestone Creek Golf Course (formerly Lin-Lar) located at 700 E. Ferry in Muskogee. Players must register by noon. The $50 entry fee includes cart and greens fees.

Players are responsible for scheduling tee times with Cobblestone Creek Golf Course on June 16. When scheduling times, notify the clubhouse of association with the Festival Golf Tournament. Call Cobblestone Creek at (918) 682-4845 to schedule tee times with Cobblestone Creek Golf Course on June 16.

Shotgun start for June 17 will begin at 8 a.m. The $80 entry fee includes cart and greens fees for two days as well as lunch on Sunday.

Participants must possess a Certificate Degree of Indian Blood card to register. Cash prizes will be awarded to the top finishers in each flight.

For more information, call Bert Robison at (918) 689-2547, e-mail, bert.robison@mail.ihs.gov or Bret Hayes at (918) 756-3334, ext. 274 or e-mail, bret.hayes@mail.ihs.gov.

Festival sche

All events will be held at the O

Thurs., June 14

7 p.m. — Miss Mvskoke & Junio

Fri., June 15

8:30 a.m. — J
1 p.m. — Golf scramble, Cobblest
6 p.m. — Men & womens fa
6 p.m. — 3 on 3 ba
6 p.m. — Volley
6:30 p.m. —Oklahoma
8 p.m. — All
8 p.m. — "Creekmo
10 p.m. — "Mel McDaniel
midnight — Tra

Sat., June 16

7:30 a.m. — 3 on 3 b
8 a.m. — Men & womens fa
8 a.m. — Volley
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8 a.m. — Tennis tourname
Participant's choice tee time — Go
8:30 a.m. — 5K run, mou
8:30 a.m. — 5K run fo
9 a.m. — Senior activities, human d
10 a.m. — Little Miss Mvskoke & S
1 p.m. — Message from the P
Afternoon — Sofke & frybread coo
2 p.m. — "Butch Powell &
4 p.m. — "Medici
6 p.m. — Fre
6 p.m. — "Smilin Vic
6:30 p.m. — Oklah
8 p.m. — All
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10 p.m. — "Rockin' Johr

Sun., June 17

8 a.m. — Men & womens fa
8 a.m. — Golf tournam
8 a.m. — Tennis tourname
1 p.m. — go

Parking Fee

There is no admission charge to an
ing fee will be charged for each car.
Kiddie playground, arts & crafts,
throughout Festival weekend.

lule of events

nniplex unless listed otherwise

r Miss Mvskoke Nation pageant

unior olympics
one Creek Golf Course, Muskogee
st pitch softball tournament
sketball tournament
ball tournament
Professional Wrestling
Indian rodeo
re Country" concert
& Oklahoma Wind" concert
ditional dancing

asketball tournament
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ball tournament
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nt, Okmulgee City Courts
lf tournament, Cobblestone Creek
d building, tribal complex
r youth ages 12 to 18
velopment building, tribal complex
nior Miss Mvskoke Nation pageant
rincipal Chief R. Perry Beaver
king contests & Indian car parade
he Seneca Band" concert
ne Pony" concert
watermelon
& the Soul Monkeys"
oma Pro Wrestling
ndian rodeo
Markham" concert
Henry & The BopCats"

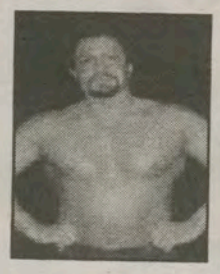
st pitch softball tournament
nt, Cobblestone Creek
nt, Okmulgee City Courts
spel singing

of the events, however a $2 park-

nd food booths will be available

Oklahoma Pro Wrestling

The main Oklahoma Professional Wrestling bout of the evening will match up Muscogee Nation's own **Chief Red Eagle** with **Rocco Valentino.**

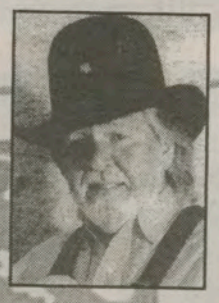


Also appearing will be: **Bolo; Splash Jackson; Renegade; The Bodysnatcher; and C.O.W.S.;** and many more.

The matches will begin at 6:30 p.m. at the omniplex.

Country & western acts

Okmulgee's own Mel McDaniel will perform at 8 p.m. on the omniplex stage. The Grand Old Opry star has released 14 albums — he started in 1976 with his first single "Have a Dream on Me" which was followed by more hits that are still heard on the radio today. "Baby's Got Her Blue Jeans On," "Louisiana Saturday Night," "Stand Up," "Let It Roll," and "Stand On It" are part of the cohesive collection of songs that remain true to his energetic stage personality.



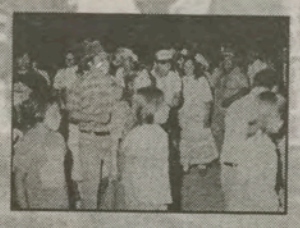
McDaniel's credits include: three Country Music Association Award nominations; two Grammy nominations; a star in the Country Music Hall of Fame's Walkway of the Stars; and countless ASCAP song writing awards.

McDaniel became a member of the Grand Ole Opry in 1986. His song, "The Grandest Lady of Them All," is the Grand Ole Opry Live theme song.

Traditional dancing

A "traditional" stomp dance will be held near the stage area of the omniplex around midnight.

Traditional speaker Eunice Hill will serve as the host for the dance. Dancing will be led by local ceremonial grounds peoples. All leaders and shell shakers are encouraged to participate.



Sat., June 16

Pageant

At 10 a.m. a Senior Ms. and Little Miss Muscogee Nation pageant will be held at the omniplex stage. The pageant will be held at the OSU-Extension Center, located on the Okmulgee County Fairgrounds, in the event of inclement weather.

The following are the contestants for Senior Miss Mvskoke Nation (55 years and over):

- Marie Hale Berryhill;
- Martha Jane Reece; and
- Pearl Thomas.

Contestants for the senior miss pageant will be judged in the areas of: poise; personality; dress; and talent.

The following are the contestants for Miss Mvskoke Nation Division I (ages three to five):

- Bailee RaeAnn Allen;
- Destiny Dunn;
- Cheyenne Factor;
- Lola Elaine Hill;
- Kyrah Ti'shan Roberts;
- Dreamer Kendra Greene;
- Tafv May Marshall;
- Whitney Michelle Marshall; and
- Brina Lee Williams.

The following are the contestants for Miss Miss Mvskoke Nation Division II (ages five to eight):

- Jessica Lynn Bailey;
- Allissa L. Bell;
- Makayla Paquin; and
- Robin Hicks.

The following are the contestants for Miss Mvskoke Nation Division III (ages nine to 12):

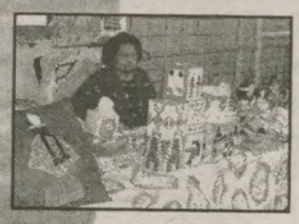
- Marissa Dawn Bear;
- Stormi Sue Bell;
- Holly Marie Dunn;
- Jennifer Marie Kilian; and
- Kristi Nicole Scott.

The deadline date for applications has passed, therefore no additional entries will be accepted. The pageant is being coordinated by the Muscogee Nation Office of Child Care. For more information, call (918) 758-1463 or 1 (800) 205-3705.

Senior activities

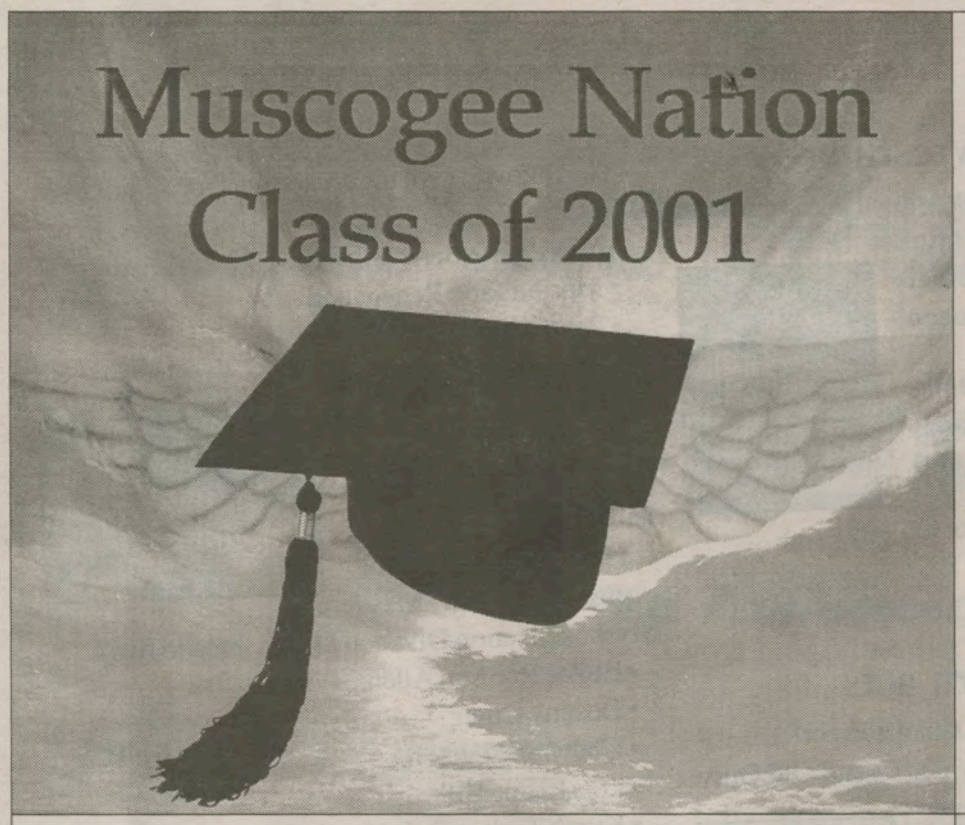
Activities for elders will be held at the Okmulgee Nutrition Center, located in the human development building on the tribal complex, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Arts & crafts setup is free to individuals ages 55 and over. A lunch of barbecue will be served at 11:30 a.m.



Bingo, gift walk, horseshoes, and door prizes will be offered.

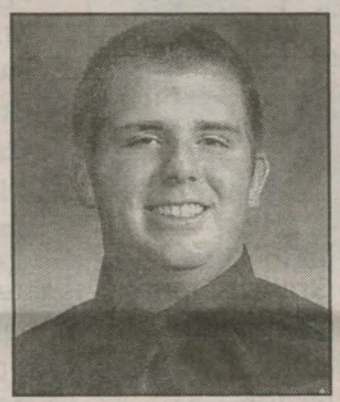
For more information, contact Janet Lee at (918) 652-4800.



Vanessa Joy Battiest

Moss High School
Parents: Chris and Yvette Powell of Wetumka and Junior Crowels of Sapulpa
Grandparents: the late Yvonne Martin, Wetumka; Calvin Battiest of Ada; and Nora Crowels of Sapulpa
Awards and activities: Oklahoma Honor Society, four years; Who's Who Among High School Students, three years; principal's honor roll, four years; National Vo-Tech Honor Society; Little River All-Conference Softball/Basketball, two years; participated in the Little River All-Star Basketball Festival East Team; Canadian River All-Conference Softball, two years; softball team state runners-up, three years; nominated All-State Softball East Team, senior year
Plans: to attend college and pursue a degree

Matthew Thomas Berry



Noble High School
Parents: Susie and John Kosek of Noble and Don Berry of Pauls Valley
Grandparents: Marvin and Virginia Thomason of Pharoah
Awards and activities: varsity basketball and baseball teams; member of the academic bowl team
Plans: to attend the University of Oklahoma

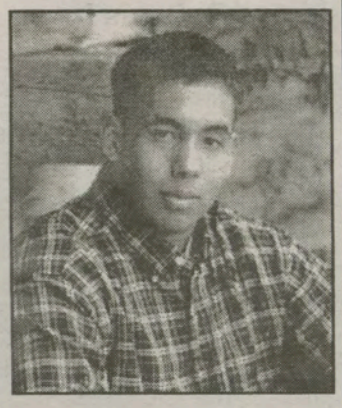
Jay Bible

Glenpool High School
Clan: Wolf
Parents: Kelli and Harry Elrod of Glenpool and James Bible of Tulsa
Grandparents: Judy Hite of Glenpool and Jim and B.J. Rogers of Coweta; descendant of Mildred McIntosh Potter and Tiger McIntosh
Awards and activities: 4A football middle linebacker of the year; baseball honorable mention for pitching in the Tulsa Seven Conference
Plans: to attend either Northern Oklahoma College or Labette Community College in Parsons, Kan. on a baseball scholarship and study criminal justice

Farrell Wayne Billy

Checotah High School
Parents: Thomas and LaVinda Billy of Checotah
Grandparents: Frank and Annie Billy of Checotah; and the late Jack and Linda Soldier of Little Kansas
Awards and activities: basketball, four years, and baseball, three years
Plans: to attend Conners State College

Spencer Blodgett



Cascade High School, Leavenworth, Wash.
Parents: Tina and Fred Blodgett
Grandparents: Helen Sawyer of Okmulgee; the late R.L. Reeder; the late Beatrice Beaver; and the late Almon Sawyer
Awards and activities: all-league tightend and linebacker
Plans: to attend Haskell Indian Nations University and major in business and play football

Amanda Dawn Buechler

Bixby High School
Parents: Dwight and Kathy Buechler of Bixby
Grandparents: Leona and the late Stanley Fish of Tulsa; Hal Buechler and the late Laverne Brockel of Simsboro, La.; George Jay Fish; and Beatrice Wood
Awards and activities: concert choir, two years, and Marine Corp Junior ROTC program sergeant
Plans: to continue working on a two-year business technology program with Tulsa Technology Center

Amanda R. Burley

Creekview High School, Carrollton, Texas
Parents: Jim and Hattie Burley of Carrollton
Grandparents: the late Shine and Anna Miller
Awards and activities: National Honor Society; National Spanish Honor Society; Who's Who Among American High School Students; Key Club; theater arts; and yearbook
Plans: to attend Stanford University and major in economics

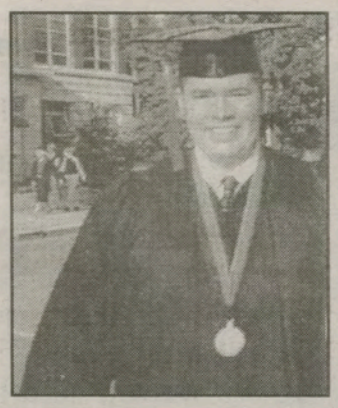
Maggie Marie Colbert

Guthrie High School
Parents: Mr. and Mrs. Marty Colbert
Grandparents: Mr. and Mrs. Duffy Martin of Guthrie; Mr. Jesse Colbert of Eufaula; and Mrs. Jesse Colbert of Okmulgee
Awards and activities: varsity golf team, four years; art club secretary; and Students for Change President
Plans: to attend Oklahoma State University and major in hotel and restaurant management

Anthony James Condi

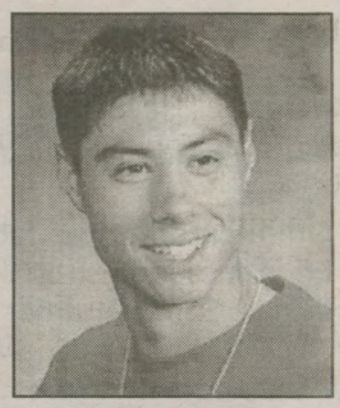
Oklahoma State University-Okmulgee
Degree: associates in industrial electrial technology
Parents: Donnie and Peggy Roberts Hyslop of Quinton
Grandparents: the late Wisey Whitlow Cox and Freeman Roberts
Awards and activities: president's honor roll; Phi Theta Kappa member
Plans: to continue employment with the Corp of Engineers

James R. Davis II



Oklahoma State University
Degree: bachelor of science in business administration with a major in finance
Clan: Racoon
Parents: Jim and Chanenna Davis of Hanna
Grandparents: Josie Davis of Hanna and the late Woodrow and Eleanor Sulphur of Eufaula
Awards and activities: Oklahoma Army National Guard
Plans: to pursue a master's degree in business administration

Kenneth Edward Fish Jr.



Glenpool High School
Parents: Kenneth and Susan Fish of Tulsa and Brenda and Ray Bowling of Glenpool
Grandparents: Leona and the late Stanley Fish of Tulsa; Murta and the late Floyd Catcher of Stilwell; George Jay Fish; and Beatrice Wood
Awards and activities: wrestling, two years; baseball and football, three years
Plans: to seek employment

Erin JoAnna Guyton

Varnum High School, Seminole
Parents: Rick and Georgia Guyton of Seminole
Grandparents: Edgar and Effie Guyton of Seminole and Houston and the late Christine Yahola of Holdenville
Awards and activities: 4-H Club; scholastic participant; and year book staff
Plans: to attend Seminole State College

Jessica Dawn Hale

Norman High School North
Parents: Dr. and Mrs. Brent O. Hale Jr.
Grandparents: Brent and Bernice Harjo Hale of Okmulgee; Ted and Barbara Dailey of Oilton; and Dewayne Wright of Cushing
Awards and activities: softball, four years
Plans: to continue working at The Dollar Tree for a year, then enlist in the U.S. Army

Derrick Taylor Hardridge

Claremore High School
Parents: Kandie and Joe T. Hardridge Jr.
Grandparents: Joe and the late Nancy Hardridge of Tulsa
Awards and activities: band, four years
Plans: to attend Oklahoma State University in Stillwater and pursue a career in the U.S. Air Force

Maneetah Harjo

Weleetka High School
Clan and tribal town: Bear and Alabama-Quassarte
Parents: Chumona Deere Polecat and Jackson Harjo Jr.
Grandparents: Edna Gouge and the late Phillip Deere and Jackson and Margaret Harjo
Awards and activities: Weleetka Association of Classroom Teachers Scholarship; Wes Watkins Vo-Tech Scholarship; National Honor Society, two years; basketball; softball; and football homecoming queen candidate
Plans: to continue her education at Wes Watkins Vo-Tech in the computer systems/information technology program

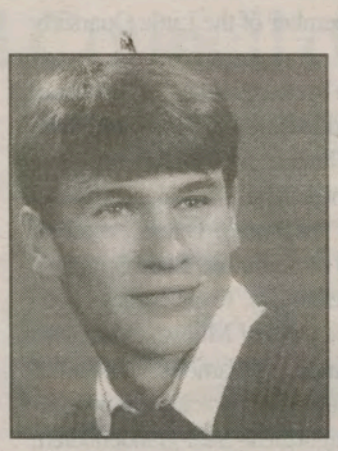
Christopher Travis Harper

Glenpool High School
Parents: Russell and Shannon Harper of Glenpool
Grandparents: the Jackie and the late Louis "Melford" Fish of Glenpool; Harry and the late Sammy Harper of Tulsa; George Jay Fish; and Beatrice Wood
Awards and activities: Tulsa Seven All-Conference Team; Second Team Tulsa All-Metro; Bixby All-Tournament Team for baseball; member of basketball and football teams
Plans: to attend Seminole State College on a baseball scholarship and major in forestry

Beatrice Minnie Howell

Glenpool High School
Parents: Brenda and the late Jody Howell of Glenpool
Grandparents: Beatrice and the late Rev. Jackson Deere and Jess and the late Louise Howell, all of Tulsa
Awards and activities: principal's honor roll and worked as a teacher's aide at Glenpool Elementary School
Plans: to attend the University of Oklahoma and study meteorology

James H. Moore



California State University, Fresno, Calif.
Degree: graduated *Magna Cum Laude* with a masters of science in physical therapy
Parents: Claudette Robertson of Oklahoma City
Grandparents: descendant of Col. William R. Robison and the late Joe C. Robison, Weleetka
Awards and activities: nominated for the National Physical Therapy Student of the Year Award; R. Charles Harker Internship in Government Affairs Award; California Student Special Interest Group Chair for the American Physical Therapy Association
Plans: to work in hospitals for a few years before opening his own practice

Alisabeth Rae Narcomey

Will Rogers High School, Tulsa
Clan and tribal town: Bear and Locvpokv
Parents: Daniel Narcomey of Holdenville and Suzanna Narcomey of Tulsa
Grandparents: Mary Kelley; descendant of Ruby Mingo and Suzanna Haikey
Awards and activities: varsity soccer team; Decca Club; Indian Club; "Round Up Show" lead choreographer; advanced dance team; Who's Who Among American High School Students; National Foundation for the Advancement in the Arts; current Indian Territory Indian Club of Broken Arrow Princess; and selected as the 2001-02 Intertribal Indian Club of Tulsa Princess
Plans: to attend Tulsa Community College in the fall and transfer to Northeastern State University the following year

Yahnah Sunday Patrick

Sam Walton School of Business at the University of Arkansas-Fayetteville
Degree: masters of accountancy
Clan and tribal town: Racoon and Tukvpvtce
Parents: Dr. Phyllis Fife of Tahlequah and Don Patrick of Stilwell
Grandparents: the late James and Carmen Fife of Dustin
Awards and activities: recipient of two U of A Alumni Association scholarships; Council of Energy Resource Tribes Scholarship; graduate research assistant; summer internships at the Muscogee Nation Accounting Department in 1999 and the Cherokee Nation Finance Department in 2000
Plans: she has accepted an audit staff position with the Ernst and Young Accounting Firm in Tulsa and will take the test to become a Certified Public Accountant in November

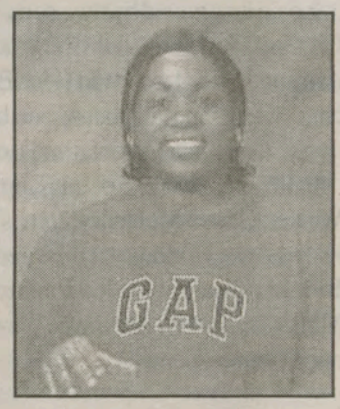
Krista Marie Ragan

Oral Roberts University, Tulsa
Degree: bachelor of science in elementary education
Parents: Kenny and Susie Ragan
Grandparents: Florence and the late Darrell James of Canadian
Awards and activities: ORU women's basketball team
Plans: to continue her athlectics and education at ORU while pursuing another degree in physical education

Anna Christine Rangel

Sapulpa High School
Parents: Joe and Virginia Rangel of Sapulpa
Grandparents: the late Leonard L. and Mary Cumsey Bevenue of Sapulpa
Awards and activities: Ventures Scholar; top five percent of class; National Honor Society, four years; Spanish Honor Society; Big Blue Marching and Symphonic Band; honor band; band vice president, two years; senior band attendant; Leo — Junior Lions Club — Co-president; and selected to attend the Headlands Program to be held at the University of Oklahoma for Native American students entering the medical field
Plans: to attend the University of Oklahoma in the pre-medical studies program

Kimberly Marchelle Reagan



Tulsa Community College
Degree: associates in liberal arts
Tribal town: Nuyaka
Parents: Bridgette and Steve Reagan of Tulsa
Grandparents: Bernice and Alfred Biglow of Okmulgee; Carl Reagan of Okmulgee; Ann and the late Charlie Fisher of Beggs
Awards and activities: dean and president's honor rolls and AKA Sorority member
Plans: to obtain a bachelor's degree in registered nursing and/or family relations and child development

ELLA HILL

HENRYETTA — Funeral services for Ella Mae Hill were held May 16 at the Yardeka Baptist Church with Revs. Amos Harjo and Mitchell Taylor officiating.

Song services were held May 14 at Robert Simons Funeral Home Chapel. Wake services were held May 15 at the church.

She was born Aug. 6, 1953 in Claremore to Jackson and Rosie Frye Bruner. She died at her home on May 11.

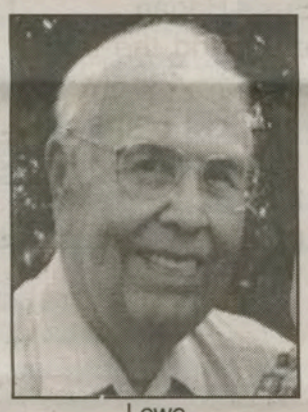
Hill was a self-employed hairdresser at the Hair Depot in Henryetta. She enjoyed fishing. She was preceded in death by her husband, Jimmy Bunny Hill and her father.

Survivors include: two daughters, Sandra Sapulpa of the home and Vanessa Hill of Lawrence, Kan.; one son, Jo Mekko Hill of the home; mother, Rosie Bruner of Henryetta; six sisters, Pat Frank, Minnie Proctor, Emma Bruner, and Wanda Williams, all of Henryetta, Nellie Lasley of Okmulgee, and Cinda Bruner of Tulsa; five grandchildren; and many other relatives and friends.

Pallbearers were: Warren Frank; Brian Proctor; Norman Frank Jr.; Brandon Lasley; Byron Proctor; Brent Bruner; and Vince Williams Jr. Honorary pallbearers were: Felix Frye; Willie Wind; Bruce Frye; Josh Jumper; Samuel Soloman Lee; and John Zerilli. Interment was at Yardeka Indian Cemetery.

REV. JOHN LOWE

HOLDENVILLE — Funeral services for Rev. John P. Lowe were held May 17 at Holdenville Indian Community Center.


Lowe

A service was held on May 16 at Baggerly-South Funeral Home in Oklahoma City followed by wake services that evening at the community center.

He was born on Nov. 7, 1917 to Rev. Canucky and Tochee Lowe. He died on May 13.

Lowe served as a Methodist minister for 45 years. He was a highly decorated World War II veteran and Purple Heart recipient.

Preceding him in death were: his wife, Eliza; one brother, Joe Lowe; and one sister, Sally Lowe.

Lowe is survived by: two sons, Frank Lowe of Oklahoma City and Merle Berryhill of Okmulgee; three grandchildren, Amy and Erica Lowe and Rene Berryhill ; one great-grandchild, Sheyenne Stephens; one brother, Angel Lowe; and two sisters, Lizzie Brooks and Louise Musgrove.

Pallbearers were: Robert King Jr.; Quincy Rinkle; Harry Walker; Chuck McHenry; James Lowe; Ronnie Bosin; and Jerry Lowe. Honorary pallbearers were: Ben Larney; Sam Brooks; Charles Little; Johnny Johnson; and Mitchell Musgrove. Interment was at Wewoka Indian United Methodist Church Cemetery.

NANCY MARSHALL

CROMWELL — Funeral services for Nancy Marshall were held April 25 at Little Quarsarty Baptist Church with Revs. Fred Lindsey, Houston Tiger, and Robert Berryhill officiating.

Marshall was born on Oct. 28, 1920 to Joseph and Louisa Benton Chupco in Seminole County. She died on April 22 at the Creek Nation Community Hospital in Okemah.

She was reared and educated in the Butner area. She was married Rev. Jake Marshall in 1949.

Marshall was a lifelong member of the Little Quarsarty Baptist Church in Cromwell.

She was preceded in death by: her parents; her husband; two sisters, Sallie Bruner and Lucinda Lindsey; and three brothers, Ben Harjo, Louis Chupco, and Jim Noon.

Marshall is survived by: eight daughters, Rosalee and Nanci Lee Ann Marshall, both of the home, Diane Factor of Cromwell, Semary Marshall of Seminole, Elsie Bruner of Bixby, Joann Armstrong of Texas City, Texas, Nancy Nibbs of Austin, Texas, and Pauline Levi of Midwest City; two sons, Robert D. Lena of Eufaula and Famous Marshall of Okemah; one sister, Annie Hale of Wewoka; 20 grandchildren, 26 great-grandchildren, eight great-great-grandchildren; and many other relatives and friends.

Pallbearers were: Famous Marshall Jr.; Randal Marshall; James Factor; Jeremy Factor; Kevin Marshall; and Timothy Bruner. Honorary pallbearers were: Robert Lewis Lena; Johnny Levi; Anthony Nibbs; Timothy Nibbs Jr.; Jacob Lena; and Bernie Allenswerth. Interment was at Little Quarsarty Church Cemetery.

DOVIE ROGERS

PORTLAND, Ore.. — Dovie Pauline Simmer Rogers died March 21 at Legacy Emanuel Hospital in Portland, Ore.

She died as a result of injuries received in a traffic accident in Vancouver, Wash.

She was born on Oct. 12, 1924 in Okemah to Jesse Simmer of McAlester. She was the daughter of Fish Pond Tribal Town.

Rogers was a retired bookkeeper for the Las Vegas, Nev. dress shop chain Marshall Russo and Company. She had also served as postmaster for Douglas City, Calif.

Rogers enjoyed: visiting with friends and family; working in her yard; sewing; walking her dog, Snoopy; and playing games on her computer.

Preceding her in death was her husband, Arthur C. "Art" Rogers.

Survivors include: one daughter, Alivia A. Long of Gresham, Ore.; two sons, Richard Rogers of Vancouver and Raymond Rogers of Shasta Lake City, Calif.; six grandchildren; and nine great grandchildren. Rogers was cremated and her remains interred at the Willamette National Cemetery in Portland.

TIMOTHY SCOTT

DEL CITY — Funeral services for Timothy Ray Scott were held April 19 at Mary Lee Clark Memorial United Methodist Church.

He was born July 24, 1976 in Lawton to David and Marlene Scott. He graduated from U.S. Grant High School in 1995 and was employed with Integris Southwest Medical Center at the time of his death.

Scott was preceded in death by: grandfathers, Lewis Harjo and Mose Scott; and stepgrandfather, Russell Thompson.

He is survived by: his parents; brother, Jonathan Scott; grandmothers, Nonie Scott and Irene Thompson; nephew, Kvncate Atkins; nieces, Leandra Sands, Hoktuce Sands, Mariah Atkins; uncles, Gilbert Scott, Bill Scott, Legus Randy, Ron, Jerry, and Lewis Harjo Jr.; and aunts, Nancy Pigeon, Lou Chotkey, Melody Robinson. Interment was at Kolb Cemetery in Spencer.

VAN TARYOLE

HENRYETTA — Funeral services for Van Taryole were held April 23 at Shurden Funeral Home Chapel with Revs. Wayne Taryole, Thompson "Tom" Gouge, and Judson Deere officiating.

He was born on Oct. 4, 1915 in Okfuskee County to Prince and Marfy Mikey Taryole. He was married to Sophia Coon Taryole for 65 years.

Taryole

Taryole attended Euchee Boarding School and Sequoyah Indian School. He played baseball and traveled with the Okemah American Legion team. Taryole was also a marksman in the sport of archery and won many trophies throughout his lifetime. He retired as a ground crewman with Line Service Co. of Tulsa.

Taryole is survived by: his wife of the home; one daughter, Sally Tiger of Sapulpa; two sons, Sonny Taryole of Henryetta and Ken Taryole of Okmulgee; seven grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers include: Shawn Taryole; Matthew Roberts; Jerome Roberts; James Tiger; Hully Tiger; and Clarence Tiger Jr. Interment was at the Taryole Family Cemetery near Nuyaka.

Religion

Butler Creek baptist set revival date

MUSKOGEE — Butler Creek Baptist Church is holding a revival from June 18 through 22.

Preachers include: June 18 — Rev. John Buckner; June 19 — Rev. Allison Phillips; June 20 — Rev. Robert Washington; June 21 — Rev. Daniel Wind; and June 22 — Rev. Mitchell Taylor. Services will begin at seven nightly.

For driving directions or more information, contact Pastor Norman Daniels at (918) 682-9645.

Campmeeting 2001 scheduled for late June

GLENPOOL — Liberty Faith Center's Campmeeting 2001 is being held from June 28 through July 1.

"Liberty Day" will be held on June 30. Among activities and free services to be offered from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. will be: haircuts for children ages 18 and under; medical clinic; food box; and legal counseling. Special guest David Ingles will speak at 1:30 p.m. A "Kidz Fun Fest" will start at 6 p.m. with a Jupiter Jump and dunk tank. A youth concert will begin at 7 p.m. Free Indian tacos will be served following the concert.

Services will begin at seven nightly and at 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. on July 1. The church is located at 14440 S. Elwood.

For more information, contact the church at (918) 322-5283 or www.libertyfaithcenter.org.

Solid Rock Baptist holding revival

GLENPOOL — Solid Rock Baptist Church is holding a revival from June 10 through 13.

The evangelist will be Larry Kingfisher and music will be provided by Jason French. Services will begin at 11 a.m., June 10 and at seven nightly.

Gospel singing

The church is having an "Outside Under the Moon" gospel singing on June 30. The master of ceremonies is Curtis Kenney. For more information, contact Curtis Kenney at (918) 682-4703 or Loretta Denny at (918) 322-3385.

Block party 2001

The church is holding a coed quads volleyball tournament on July 7. The entry fee is $40 per team. The entry fee for the five-person team roster is due by July 5.

To enter a team, contact Christine at (918) 322-3385.

The church is located at 841 E. 141st St.

Program	Receipts	Budgets	Encumbered	Expended	Balance
MCN LEGAL DEFENSE FUND	8,494.00	238,155.00	710.00	11,865.00	225,580.00
CN SALES TAX	28,875.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TREASURY	699,815.00	30,666.00	0.00	710,551.00	(679,885.00)
LITIGATION & LOBBYING	3,931.00	57,709.00	0.00	0.00	57,709.00
GENERAL TAXES & LICENSES	538,895.00	1,468,774.00	24,765.00	585,968.00	858,041.00
MOTOR FUEL TAXES	536,223.00	1,928,997.00	49,654.00	1,015,526.00	863,817.00
ADMINISTRATION/INDIRECT	2,017,155.00	2,109,433.00	12,256.00	1,020,557.00	1,076,620.00
CONSUMER LOANS	12,170.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CREEK NATION BINGO	2,076,959.00	3,511,145.00	52,753.00	1,798,908.00	1,659,484.00
CN PERMANENT FUND	1,583,630.00	241,421.00	2,000.00	61,301.00	178,120.00
TOM JOHNSON PERM FUND	(46,495.00)	0.00	0.00	30,252.00	(30,252.00)
BOK SETTLEMENT	8,970.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CULTURAL PRESERVATION	566.00	1,000.00	0.00	555.00	445.00
HOLDENVILLE COMMUNITY	8,062.00	3,000.00	0.00	3,781.00	(781.00)
A.G. EDWARDS	(75,560.00)	0.00	0.00	10,906.00	(10,906.00)
CODIFICATION	100,000.00	100,000.00	0.00	0.00	100,000.00
TRIBAL BUDGET	277,228.00	885,866.00	11,071.00	449,339.00	425,456.00
MOTOR VEHICLE	690,377.00	1,076,461.00	62,992.00	435,668.00	577,801.00
HEALTH EDUCATION	9,885.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
WIA-TITLE I	241,557.00	548,156.00	3,164.00	244,801.00	300,191.00
WIA-SUMMER YOUTH	40,044.00	107,351.00	700.00	41,718.00	64,933.00
WELFARE TO WORK	98,919.00	189,244.00	0.00	102,669.00	86,575.00
WELFARE TO WORK '99	20,798.00	121,690.00	0.00	21,880.00	99,810.00
HUD-MUSKOGEE TRAVEL PLAZA	(361.00)	702,621.00	702,621.00	0.00	0.00
HUD-NAHASDA '00	12,248,099.00	16,000,912.00	0.00	1,243,460.00	14,757,452.00
HUD-ROSS '01	0.00	250,000.00	0.00	0.00	250,000.00
DRUG ELIMINATION	0.00	560,277.00	0.00	0.00	560,277.00
HUD-NAHASDA '98	4,588,270.00	6,411,986.00	84.00	323,858.00	6,088,044.00
HUD-NAHASDA '99	8,688,281.00	8,876,015.00	17,423.00	1,483,566.00	7,375,026.00
LIHEAP '00	29,886.00	33,027.00	0.00	30,711.00	2,316.00
FAMILY PRESERVATION '00	100,401.00	191,763.00	3,981.00	101,715.00	86,067.00
CCDBG '00	324,976.00	433,463.00	2,342.00	325,112.00	106,009.00
HEAD START '00	601,318.00	927,452.00	184,506.00	601,318.00	141,628.00
TITLE IV-B '00	95,892.00	168,341.00	4,438.00	100,441.00	63,462.00
FAMILY VIOLENCE '00	79,333.00	218,571.00	5,359.00	79,759.00	133,453.00
LIHEAP '01	49,248.00	88,563.00	955.00	50,661.00	36,947.00
CCDBG DISCRETIONARY '01	289,108.00	1,360,819.00	3,002.00	291,937.00	1,065,880.00
CCDBG MANATORY '01	824,874.00	2,309,711.00	77,247.00	837,730.00	1,394,734.00
HEADSTART '01	482,979.00	1,575,020.00	38,789.00	491,558.00	1,044,673.00
CCDBG '99 MANDATORY	68,322.00	115,866.00	5,768.00	68,716.00	41,382.00
FOOD DISTRIBUTION '01	141,725.00	414,000.00	3,589.00	150,082.00	260,329.00
JOM EARLY CHILDHOOD	61.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
JOHNSON O'MALLEY	1,125.00	30,000.00	2,106.00	3,644.00	24,250.00
MCN CHILD DEV. CENTER	186,508.00	220,000.00	712.00	62,213.00	157,075.00
USDA HEADSTART REIMBURSE	7,504.00	29,418.00	8,200.00	28,406.00	(7,188.00)
EUFAULA DORM ACTIVITY FUND	21,653.00	22,453.00	0.00	5,395.00	17,058.00
SENIOR SERVICES	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00
ELECTION BOARD	463.00	950.00	0.00	0.00	950.00
COMMUNICATIONS REVOLVING	1,014.00	6,992.00	0.00	2,585.00	4,407.00
CITIZENSHIP BOARD	7,327.00	7,621.00	0.00	0.00	7,621.00
FOOD DIST. PROG. INCOME	1,022.00	1,000.00	594.00	201.00	205.00
C.D. REVOLVING FUND	188.00	1,000.00	135.00	200.00	665.00
LIGHTHORSE PROG. INCOME	1,232.00	5,800.00	0.00	2,780.00	3,020.00
SELF-GOVERNANCE INTEREST	16,189.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PROVIDING OPP. WITH ALGEBRA	163,432.00	241,388.00	4,140.00	165,128.00	72,120.00
DOE-LIBRARY SERVICE BASIC	4,000.00	4,000.00	121.00	2,285.00	1,594.00
DOE-LIBRARY TECH GRANT	2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00	0.00	2,000.00
SELF-GOVERNANCE COMPACT	5,009,492.00	5,063,486.00	22,041.00	2,335,563.00	2,705,882.00
JOM-EARLY CHILDHOOD '00	4,614.00	4,475.00	1,542.00	2,820.00	113.00
JOHNSON O'MALLEY '00	317,296.00	310,065.00	22,460.00	202,363.00	85,242.00
DOI-ENVIRN CLEAN-UP	0.00	24,750.00	0.00	0.00	24,750.00
EUFAULA DORM '00	1,415,657.00	982,554.00	25,034.00	366,092.00	591,428.00
00 TRANSPORTATION IMPROV.	95.00	56,394.00	0.00	627.00	55,767.00
LAMAR ROAD	37,600.00	200,000.00	160,000.00	37,600.00	2,400.00
IRR SPECIAL PLANNING	26,068.00	32,589.00	0.00	26,067.00	6,522.00
KELLYVILLE ROAD	0.00	5,000.00	0.00	0.00	5,000.00
KELLYVILLE PROJECT	388,118.00	4,417,933.00	30,200.00	388,117.00	3,999,616.00
EUFAULA DORM '97	202,208.00	195,846.00	1,975.00	1,042.00	192,829.00
EUFAULA DORM '98	12,560.00	12,301.00	0.00	9,552.00	2,749.00
99 JOM EARLY CHILDHOOD	430.00	430.00	0.00	430.00	0.00
99 EUFAULA DORM	459,448.00	449,322.00	11,727.00	238,322.00	199,273.00
99 TRANSPORTATION IMPROV	1,750.00	20,781.00	0.00	1,889.00	18,892.00
MONTEZUMA PROJECT	64,296.00	64,296.00	2,800.00	64,295.00	(2,799.00)
CHILDREN'S ALLIANCE	14,987.00	14,987.00	70.00	6,431.00	8,486.00
WATER QUALITY	8,665.00	22,941.00	0.00	9,166.00	13,775.00
TRIBAL RESOURCES (COPS)	23.00	2,552.00	0.00	0.00	2,552.00
VICTIMS ASSISTANCE	6,368.00	40,000.00	40.00	7,731.00	32,229.00
JUVENILE DELINQUENCY	0.00	20,000.00	1,313.00	856.00	17,831.00
VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN	0.00	85,484.00	0.00	0.00	85,484.00
DRUG COURT	18,888.00	87,585.00	0.00	21,455.00	66,130.00
EPA	29,326.00	192,595.00	13,097.00	30,487.00	149,011.00
MUSKOGEE TRAVEL PLAZA	2,786,895.00	2,750,000.00	2,594,525.00	155,475.00	0.00
COMMUNITY CENTERS PROJ	3,396.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TRAVEL PLAZA ENTERPRISE	444,046.00	0.00	0.00	2,750,000.00	(2,750,000.00)
TRIBAL AGRICULTURE PROG.	3,052.00	4,000.00	100.00	75.00	3,825.00
LIGHTHORSE SERVICES	173,821.00	171,400.00	1,598.00	149,618.00	20,184.00
MCN FLAGS & ETC	824.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
ROADS EQUIPMENT POOL	149,401.00	83,000.00	30,385.00	16,249.00	36,366.00
C.N. EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	18,665.00	0.00	135.00	3,255.00	(3,390.00)
C.N. TAXES & FRINGE	22,115.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
NEIL CAMPBELL SCHOLARSHIP	46.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
ROAD FORCE ACCOUNT	213,900.00	676,730.00	2,402.00	238,773.00	435,555.00
TRIBAL- REAL PROP & FAC.	1,465,612.00	2,671,977.00	328,468.00	747,957.00	1,595,552.00
TRIBAL- PROPERTY & SUPPLY	38,175.00	110,797.00	238.00	38,872.00	71,687.00
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS	158,702.00	63,855.00	0.00	370,000.00	(306,145.00)
SELF-INSURED HLTH FUND	821,929.00	0.00	0.00	815,661.00	(815,661.00)
C.N. FOUND. SCHOLARSHIP	2,497.00	0.00	0.00	1,730.00	(1,730.00)
EUFAULA DORM SCHOLARSHIP	18.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTALS	**52,227,550.00**	**72,669,222.00**	**4,536,327.00**	**22,038,276.00**	**46,094,619.00**

Muscogee (Creek) Nation quarterly financial statement

Quarter ending March 31, 2001
Prepared by the office of the controller

In accordance with National Council Act 88-70, section 112, as amended by NCA 89-37, the following information for the period ending March 31, 2001 discloses the receipts, budget, encumbrances, expenditures, and balance for all funds under the control of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

The **receipts** are dollar amounts received for the period ending March 31, 2001. The figures include, but are not limited to, federal dollars received on grants or contracts, interest earned during the quarter, and revenues generated by the tribe. The total dollars spent represent the amount spent to date for the second quarter ending March 31, 2001.

The **budget** figure represents the amounts approved in the comprehensive annual budget.

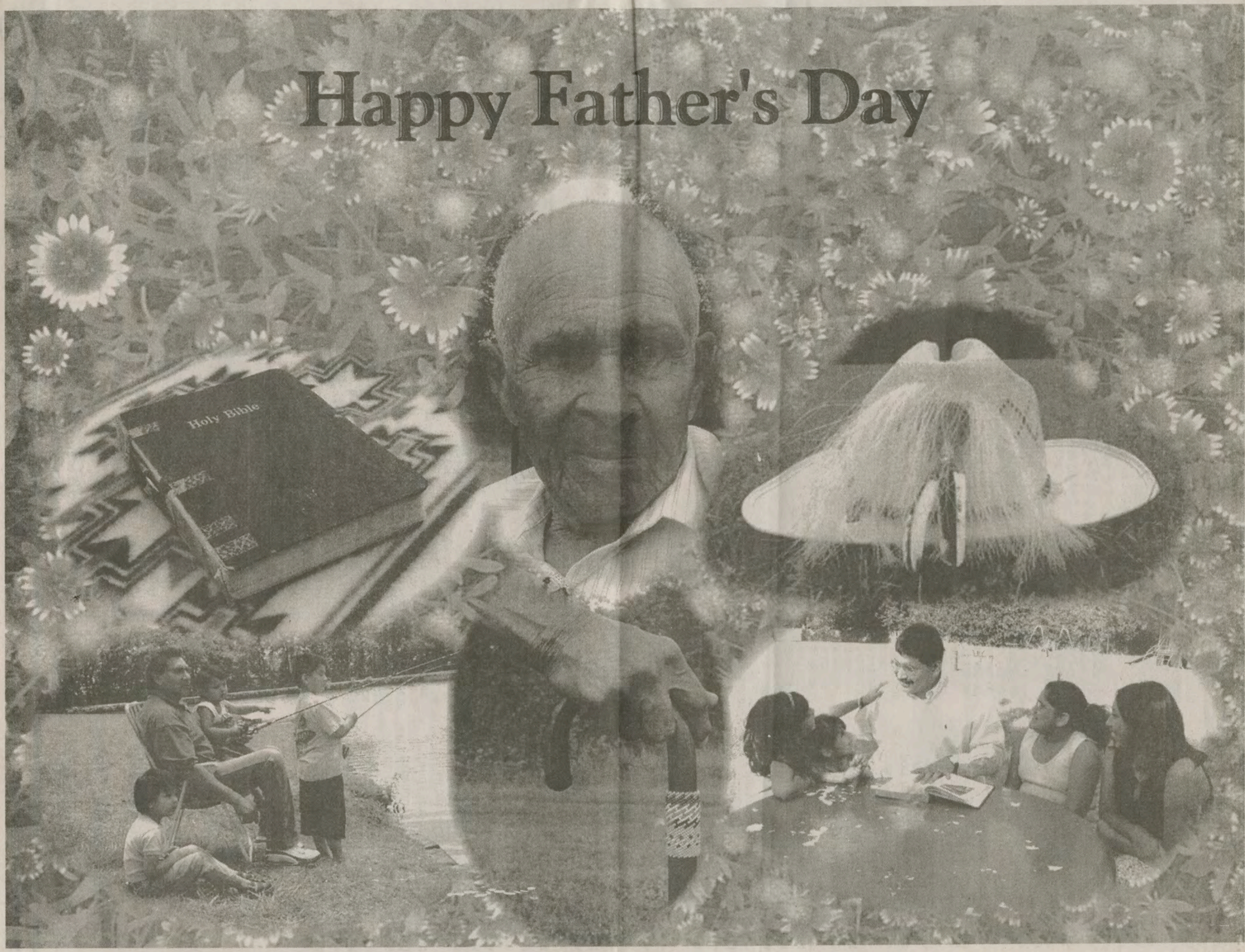
The **encumbered** amounts include figures derived from outstanding purchase orders at the end of the year.

Expended amounts state the total amount that has been spent for each department, within that fund.

The **balance** figures reflect the net available for each department at the end of March 31, 2001.

Any questions regarding this report may be directed to the office of the controller at (918) 756-8700, ext. 250.

Happy Father's Day



The Muscogee Nation News

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Tribal leaders say still short of meeting needs

By Brian Stockes
Indian County Today

WASHINGTON — The House of Representatives Interior Appropriations Committee recently passed the Interior funding measure for FY 2002 with funding for the BIA and the Indian Health Service. The bill is almost identical to the president's proposed budget, with few exceptions.

Under the committee's bill, $2.213 billion is proposed for the BIA, an increase of $76.2 million over this year's enacted level and $10 million more than the president's request. The IHS would receive $2.76 billion, a $6.7 million increase over this year's level and $50 million more than the president asked.

While a few are encouraged by some of the funding levels, tribal leaders say there still is a long way to go in meeting the real needs of Indian country.

please see **FUNDING**..., page 3

Euchee Ribbon Dancers

photo by Stephanie Barnett

Jeanice Brown helps her daughter, Heather, prepare for Duck Creek Ceremonial Ground Ribbon Dance held on June 29. Brown and her daughter belong to Polecat Tribal Town and reside in Sapulpa.

Hearing on tribe's three-year plan scheduled

OKMULGEE — A public hearing on the tribe's three year plan for spending tribal judgment funds will be held from 9 to 11 a.m., July 14 at Green Country Technology Center Seminar Room, 1100 N. Loop 56.

National Council Act 81-87 requires the principal chief to hold a public hearing on the allocation of three year plan dollars. The plan mandates that the administration of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation solicit commentary on how the funds will be programmed every third year.

Around 50 tribal citizens attended the last hearing, held in July 1998, to offer suggestions for judgement fund spending.

General election date correction

The Muscogee (Creek) National Council general election date published in the June issue of The Muscogee Nation New is incorrect.

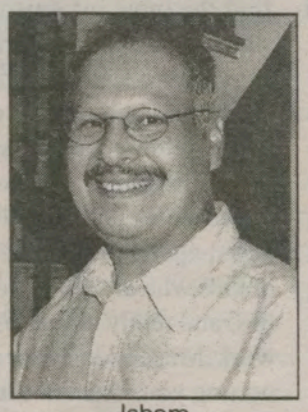
The general election will be held on Nov. 3 not Nov. 13 as printed. See other election-related information on page three

Muscogee People

Creek Council House Museum curator using tribal culture to bring community together

By Gerald Wofford

When Oklahoma City native Ted Isham was appointed as curator of the Creek Council House Museum, he was a little worried. Isham, a Hillabee Ceremonial Ground member, did want to be viewed as a "token Indian."



Isham

"When I applied for the job and found out the background of it, I was very interested," he said, "but I didn't want to be... just hired for the color of my skin."

The Creek Indian Memorial Association, the governing board of the museum, had voted unanimously for Isham's hire. Isham was contacted by Second Chief A.D. Ellis, a member of the CIMA search committee. Ellis told him that he had the support of the tribe, which to Isham, played a great factor. Ellis also told him that the tribe wanted someone to bring the community together.

"I want people to know that we [the museum] are a part of the community, that we are here for everyone, to educate the Indian and Non-Indian."

He is currently sharing cultural knowledge and teaching language to youth attending a day camps in the Okmulgee area. Isham sees this camp and future community events as a part of making the museum the center of area activities.

Though living in Okmulgee throughout the week, Isham has close ties to the state's capitol city and maintains a residence there. He serves as vice president of Oklahoma City Muscogee (Creek) Association. Isham is also a founding member of the Oklahoma City-based Mvskoke Language Institute.

"We at the Mvskoke Language Institute wanted to

please see **MUSCOGEE PEOPLE**..., page 18

Letters to the editor

Elder thanks coordinator for senior's day

Editor:

I would like to thank the tribal Johnson O' Malley program staff for coordinating the wonderful day of fun for seniors at the Creek Nation Festival. We elderly citizens had a great time.

Many warm thoughts and thanks go to Virginia Thomas and Martha Wind.

Esther M. Harley Grona, Okmulgee

Editor's note: Esther M. Harley Grona is chair of the Mvskoke Elder Council.

Council House curator appreciates support

Editor:

I am the newly-hired curator (*vculvke 'marakkuecetvn vfastv*) of the Creek Council House Museum in Okmulgee. My family and I wish to extend a greatly appreciated *mvto* to all who have stopped by either during the reception or during the Creek Nation Festival to offer words of support. I am greatly humbled by the fact that I have support from the various Creek communities. I plan to do the very best of my ability to help promote the Mvskokvlke people in conjunction with my job at the museum.

I especially wish to thank the offices of the principal chief and National Council, for without their initial support I might not have been encouraged to consider the job in the first place. Also I wish to thank the Creek Indian Memorial Association Board and David Anderson, museum director, for their collaborative efforts. Again I thank all of you for your encouragement and kind words.

We will not let our ancestors' memories be forgotten as long as we support institutions such as the collective oral memory of the Creek people.

Your humbled servant,

Ted Isham, Oklahoma City

Association president thanks community

Editor:

The Oklahoma City Muscogee (Creek) Association wants to thank everyone for their support of the Creek language classes and the taco sale that was recently held.

It is with the community's help and support that we will be a strong organization in the Oklahoma City area.

Blue Clark, Oklahoma City

Editor's note: Blue Clark is the president of the Oklahoma City Muscogee (Creek) Association.

Thoughtful family and friends appreciated

Editor:

I want to say thanks to my family, friends, relatives, Tulsa Creek Indian Community Ladies Auxiliary, Arbeka Tribal Town members, and members of Henryetta Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 539, for their prayers, cards, gifts, and flowers given to me during my recent surgery.

I am grateful to have you as friends and family.

Carol Morris, Tulsa

please see **LETTERS**..., page 20

June District Court filings

Protective Orders:

- Wiley Butler vs. Leatrice Manley
- Sharon Harjo vs. Eric Proctor
- Mary Kelly vs. George Hill
- Cindy (Russell) Gresham vs. Damon Troy Gresham
- Dorothy Twist vs. William Edward Joiner

Divorce:

- Jason Smith vs. Lorena Smith

Criminal Misdemeanor:

- Franklin D. Foster Jr., violation of protective order
- Michael John Harley, public intoxication

Civil/Small Claims:

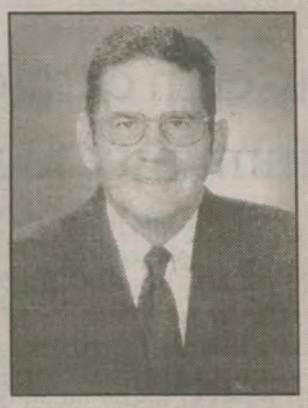
- Shelly Crow, MSRN, Citizen, Crow Health Consultants vs. Lawrence Vark, chief medical officer of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Health Administration
- Nobel Finance Corp. vs. Sharon Pritchett
- Minerva Francis vs. Enus Wilson, an individual and in his capacity as Commissioner of the Office of Public Gaming of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation
- Barbara Parker vs. Enus Wilson, an individual and in his capacity as Commissioner of the Office of Public Gaming of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation
- Royal Finance vs. Wyquita Bear

Second opinion

by Second Chief A.D. Ellis

Our 27th Annual Creek Nation Festival ended with a great weekend of good weather. A big thank you to all the tribal employees who worked long and hard hours to make it a success.

Congratulations to our new Miss Mvskoke Nation **Dawn Thompson** and Junior Miss Mvskoke Nation **Whitney Burden**. The crowning of the first Senior Ms. Mvskoke Nation — **Pearl Thomas** — was a very emotional moment. I've known Pearl for a long time, she was a wise choice for the title.



On June 15, **Ted Isham** was officially welcomed as the Creek Council House Museum's new curator. National Council Speaker **Wilbur Gouge**, myself, along with many Muscogee citizens, family, and friends attended. For the first time in many years the Muscogee Nation is represented and involved in our historic Council House. Thanks to the National Council for funding the salary to allow a very qualified Muscogee citizen to fill the position.

I visited Nuyaka Mission last week and was shocked at the condition and appearance of the property. The small group of elderly people who try and care for the site need help. They are very limited on funds and the ability to accomplish what needs to be done. Such a historic place, dating back to 1882, and we, as a tribe, let it deteriorate to a sad condition. At one time as many as 80 Creek children lived went to school there. Let's do something to save this location.

On June 14, I was invited to Holdenville for a Father's Day dinner. This elderly nutrition site has two great cooks, **Penny** and **Betty Tiger**, with great food and fine people. The highlight was meeting tribal elder **California Fixico** who is 99 years young. Thanks Holdenville.

We, as concerned tribal citizens, sometimes discuss the future of our tribe. This month I had the opportunity to spend a few days with Johnson O'Malley students from all over Oklahoma. Many tribes were represented and a challenge bowl to find the most informed, smartest, and best Indian students, occurred. I think we, as Indian people, need not worry because we have very bright, smart, and ambitious young people growing up every day. Urged to get better educated and set an example for their respective tribes, they will be our future leaders.

Bad news and bad stories about a few kids sell newspapers. We never hear about the 99 percent of kids who are really good, who respect their families, and really strive to succeed. Keep up the good work Muscogee JOM students because I'm supporting you. Thanks **Virginia Thomas**, tribal JOM program manager, and staff for that opportunity,

Quote of the month: *Knowing you have made a small difference makes volunteering worth it.*

Mvto.

The Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to ***The Muscogee Nation News***, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of every month.** ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Standard Class A from Okmulgee, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

Stephanie Barnett, managing editor
Gerald Wofford, photography
Denise Jacobs, page layout
Jennifer Taryole, circulation

Muscogee National Council overview

OKMULGEE — The following consists of actions of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council conducted at its June 30 regular session.

The following veto messages were acted upon:

• failed (16-8-0) to override National Council Act 01-56, directing the housing authority to adopt new contracts and/or agreements with contractors;

• overrode unanimously (24-0-0) NCA 01-60, amending NCA 96-18 (Executive Office Reorganization Act of 1996) and appropriating funds for the establishment of office of veterans affairs services for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

• override unanimously (24-0-0) NCA 01-89, authorizing a special appropriation to the Tahlahvse Ceremonial Ground (Cromwell) for their Green Corn Ceremony.

Speaker **Wilbur Gouge**, McIntosh District, conducted the meeting and did not vote for bills under the order of business or items for consideration.

In Council business it:

• approved unanimously (23-0-0) Tribal Resolution 01-16, supporting the proposed funding for the drug elimination program grantees under Housing and Urban Development through Indian housing authorities and/or tribes to be reinstated;

• approved (20-3-0) TR 01-21, confirming the nomination of **George Tiger** to serve the remaining term of **Delbert Dunn** of the board of commissioners of the housing authority of the Creek Nation of Oklahoma Inc.;

Tiger is a tribal citizen residing in Tulsa;

• approved unanimously (23-0-0) TR 01-22, confirming the nomination of **Kennan Phillips** to serve on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election board;

Phillips is a tribal citizen residing in Eufaula;

• approved (13-10-0) TR 01-23, confirming the nomination of **June Mustari** to serve on the gaming operations authority board;

Mustari is a tribal citizen residing in Tulsa;

• approved unanimously (23-0-0) TR 01-24, confirming the terms of office of the persons currently serving on the election board;

• failed to approve (3-18-2) TR 01-27, authorizing the principal chief to lend $5 million of permanent fund capital to Bacone College in Muskogee, Oklahoma;

• approved unanimously (23-0-0) NCA 01-36, authorizing an appropriation for the settlement agreement between the Muscogee (Creek) Health Systems Board and two former employees of the division of health administration;

• approved (15-7-0) NCA 01-66, amending NCA 96-41 and NCA 96-03 (as amended by NCA 98-34) to grant the principal chief the authority to sell cattle, crops, and equipment that belong to the farm;

• approved (22-0-0) NCA 01-74, amending NCA 99-09 § 104 and §105 subsection B to revise the organizational chart and appropriate funds to be included in the comprehensive annual budget;

• approved (21-0-0) NCA 01-95, amending NCA 95-95 (establishing guidelines and authorizing tribal funds for scholarships to tribal citizens and repealing NCA 87-70 and NCA 89-06) and appropriating additional funds;

• approved (20-1-0) NCA 01-96, authorizing a budget modification over 10 percent for the environmental services department;

• approved (21-0-0) NCA 01-98, authorizing a budget modification over 10 percent for the employment and training program;

• approved (21-0-0) NCA 01-101, authorizing the expenditure of a "Safe and Stable Families" grant match for children and family services and appropriating the match;

• approved (21-0-0) NCA 01-105 authorizing the expenditure of an Oklahoma Indian Commission energy award in the amount of $1,300 to be used in client services for the social services program;

• approved (21-0-0) NCA 01-106, authorizing a budget modification for the vision program budget and the expenditure of increase of funds;

• approved (20-0-0) NCA 01-107, authorizing a budget modification for the American Indian/Alaska Native support centers for the fiscal year 2001 tobacco program budget;

• approved (20-0-0) NCA 01-108, authorizing a code of conduct for judicial branch judges and employees;

• approved unanimously (21-0-0) NCA 01-109, amending NCA 82-30 §§ 101, 102, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 18, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 130, 132, 133, 135, 136, 138, and 207 amending NCA 88-69 RULE 3, 4, 6, 9, 11, 12, 13, and 14, repealing certain sections of NCA 82-30, adding a new evidence code, and repealing NCA 83-50, all relating to judicial procedures, to be codified in title 27 Code of Laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

• approved (16-4-0) NCA 01-110, establishing a criminal procedure code to be codified in title 14 of the Code of Laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

• approved (19-0-0) NCA 01-111, authorizing and appropriating funds for honorariums for ceremonial grounds participating in the Council Oak Tree Cer-

please see **COUNCIL**..., page 20

National Council filing and election dates upcoming

OKMULGEE — The primary and general election dates for the 12th session of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council will be held Sept. 22 and Nov. 3, respectively.

Candidate filing times and dates for National Council seats are from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Aug. 20 through 22.

To be eligible to run for office, individuals must:

• be at least one-fourth degree enrolled Muscogee (Creek) Nation tribal members;

• be a registered tribal voter;

• reside in the district in which she/he is filing for one calendar year;

• have no record of a felony within the last 10 years.

When filing, candidate must submit: a filing fee of $150 (cashier's check or money order); tribal enrollment card; and proof of residence via a utility bill in the name of the candidate.

All enrolled Muscogee Nation tribal members, ages 18 and older, are eligible to vote, but must have valid registration in order to do so.

Election board staff requests that information be updated regarding: changes of address (address changes related to 911 included); name changes; and informing the office of deaths of registered voters.

Absentee voters must mail in their ballot request forms by Aug. 29 in order to receive ballots for the primary and general elections.

For more information on candidate filing, primary or general election dates, registration information, or to update an address, call the election board office at (918) 756-8700, extensions 294 or 349.

Funding

continued from page 1

"Certainly the expectation of Indian country is that the president will honor his commitments," said Randy Noka, first councilman for the Narragansett Tribe in Rhode Island. "He said he was going to be the education president, but he has not yet shown that he is going to meet the unmet needs of tribes regarding education. If that was one of his main objectives as a candidate and he does not fulfill it, then that doesn't bode well for our other needs."

Under the president's proposed budget and the committee's measure, $292,503,000 is proposed for BIA education construction, only $162,000 more than this year's level. During a campaign stop in New Mexico, President Bush promised pueblo leaders he would request $1 billion in funds for American Indian schools in his first budget proposal to Congress. Bush said he was committed to improving the condition of American Indian schools and that American Indian education would be a priority.

The committee's report also focuses attention on the ongoing Cobell vs. Norton case, stating that the committee is "very concerned over the escalating costs" associated with the litigation. However, it did not appropriate any funds for a historical accounting of Individual Indian Money accounts, as required by the court. The report states the committee "has no interest" in appropriating additional funds for litigation support and "if the Department, working with the plaintiffs and the Court, cannot find a cost effective methodology for an historical accounting, the Congress may have to consider a legislative remedy."

The committee bill would continue several legislative riders currently in place, including: hiring administrative law judges to address the American Indian probate backlog, the redistribution of Tribal Priority Allocation and tribal base funds, allocation of BIA post-secondary school funds consistent with unmet needs, limit use of the Huron cemetery, permit a tribal school construction demonstration program and limit payments for contract support costs in past years to funds available in law.

The bill contains language that would limit execution of new and expanded IHS contracts and compacts once the appropriation has been committed. The provision would prohibit any increase in direct contract support funding for existing compacts.

During the consideration, no controversial amendments were considered, however it is possible some amendments will be offered once the measure reaches the House floor.

"I hope they can meet their commitments to Indian people," Noka said. "There's a long way to go and a lot of people are counting on them."

Squads training to be held at Green Country

OKMULGEE — Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tobacco Prevention and Control Program is holding an adult facilitators training to assist the youth-led organization Students Working Against Tobacco (S.W.A.T.).

The training is being held at Green Country Technology Center from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., July 18.

Seating is limited; registration shold be made by July 10. Lunch will be provided.

Registration may be made by mail, telephone, or facsimile to: Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tobacco Prevention and Control Program, 1801 E. 4th St., Okmulgee, OK 74447; call, (918) 756-4333, ext. 285; or fax, (918) 759-2088.

For more information, contact Cynthia Coachman at 1 (800) 782-8291.

California Creeks holding quarterly meeting

COMMERCE, CAL. — The California Muscogee (Creek) Association is holding their third quarterly meeting at Southern California Indian Center, located at 6055 E. Washington Blvd., Suite 700, from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Aug. 4.

The purpose of the association is to stimulate and enhance social interaction and to maintain the culture, traditions, and heritage of the Muscogee (Creek) Tribe.

The active membership of the association is limited to enrolled citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Individuals who endorse the purpose of the association may be eligible for associate memberships, but associate members may not vote or hold elected office. The dues of active members are $60 per year, dues for associate members are $36 per year. The membership year and the fiscal year of the association is from January through June.

The officers and board of directors include: president, Ken Taylor of Anaheim; vice president, Sonny McCosar of Riverside; secretary, Peggy Barnett of Garden Grove; treasurer, Bill Lunsford of Pasadena; and Wanda Morrison of Irvine; Yahola Simms of Riverside; and Ben Adams of Fontana.

The association headquarters are located in Los Angeles, California.

A pot luck meal will be served during the quarterly meeting. Suggested food items are assigned according to the first letter of member's last names: A — G, salads; H –L, vegetables; M — S, fruit and bread; T—Z, desserts and serving untensils. The food committee will

please see **NOTICES**..., page 5

Authority on Indian constitutional law to lecture

OKMULGEE — Richard A. Monette, an authority on Indian constitutional law, will lecture on constitutional reform at the invitation of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution Amendment Committee.

The lecture will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Aug. 11.

Monette, an enrolled member of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians, earned his juris doctorate from the University of Oregon and went on to receive a masters in law from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Monette clerked for the U.S. Attorney's Office in Oregon and has served as a staff attorney for two Senators on the U.S. Senate Committee on Indian Affairs. In 1994, as the legislative director for the Bureau of Indian Affairs, he handled all legislation leading up to the eventual reauthorization of the Indian Self-Governance and Indian Self-Determination Acts as well as the reauthorization of 638 other laws.

For the past 10 years, Monette has taught Indian law, water rights, torts, property and various seminars at the University of Wisconsin Law School in Madison. He is the current director of the Great Lakes Indian Law Center where he supervises students assisting Midwestern tribes with a variety of legal issues. He has written numerous articles on Indian law and is on the editorial teams of both the Felix Cohen Handbook of Indian Law and the Clinton-Newton-Monette Case Law Text Book. In addition to his academic commitments, Monette served on the editorial board of the Oregon Law Review and on the executive board of the National Native Bar Association. He has also practiced law in every area of Indian law, but has developed a specialty on helping tribes rewrite and revise their constitutions. Monette is currently the chair of the Turtle Band of Chippewa.

All community and tribal leaders and interested tribal citizens are encouraged to attend the lecture. A buffet lunch will be provided. Individuals planning to attend should reserve their seats by Aug. 6 by calling the Muscogee Nation District Court at (918) 758-1400.

For more information, call the District Court or Muscogee National Council at (918) 758-1410.

National Kidney Foundation Kidney Early Evaluation Program screening well attended

Teresa Roberts of Cromwell has her blood pressure checked by tribal CHR Rex Watson.

OKMULGEE — Approximately 105 individuals participated in a Kidney Early Evaluation Program held by Muscogee Nation Community Health Representatives in collaboration with the National Kidney Foundation of Oklahoma.

National Kidney Foundation officials said that the turnout was the largest they have ever received at a screening held in collaboration with an Oklahoma tribe.

Around six participants tested positive for risk of developing kidney disease and were encouraged to seek further evaluation and follow-up from a physician. Just being able to inform these six individuals of their potential for kidney disease is a success in itself, said tribal CHR Clara Yuponco.

The next screening will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Aug. 29 at Eufaula Indian Community Center, 800 Forest Ave.

photos by Stephanie Barnett

Nora Deere, Seminole Nation CHR, checks Okmulgee citizen Juanita Checotah's blood glucose level.

Tribal citizen Woody Anderson, president of Native American Equipment and Supply Inc., Muskogee, draws a ticket for a door prize while Cyndi Harjo Gilks, acting CHR manager, and Jody Kodaseet, National Kidney Foundation of Oklahoma, assist.

Houston Hicks of Henryetta gets his cholesterol level checked by tribal CHR Floyd Bales.

Dr. Zeid Khitan, University of Oklahoma Health Science Center Department of Nephrology, right, consults with Janice Fowler, Henryetta, regarding her test results.

Notices

continued from page 4

provide: meat; drinks; ice; cups; and silverware.

To get to the center, take the I-5 Freeway (Santa Ana Freeway) to the Washington Boulevard off-ramp. The center is located in the Sanwa Bank Building on the 7th floor.

Mvskoke Elder Council report

DEWAR — The Mvskoke Elder Council held its monthly meeting at Dewar community center on June 6.

They discussed many problems concerning elder citizens of Muscogee Nation — particularily the need for a tribal nursing home, reported chair Esther M. Harley Grona. "One is the removal of the elderly at the elder [housing] complex to a nursing home because the complex rules will not let seniors have nursing care with the overnight stay. Instead of keeping them in their apartments they send them to the nursing homes," Harley said.

Harley said that there needs to be more consideration for the elder population. "It is a known fact that the elderly do not get the best medical and dental care," she reported.

The elder council will be taking 40 of its members to a national conference in Oklahoma City from Aug. 22 through 24.

The next meeting of the Mvskoke Elder Council will be held at Muskogee Indian Community Center on July 18.

American Indian Film Festival call for entries

SAN FRANCISCO — The American Indian Film Institute is currently seeking entries for its 26th annual American Indian Film Festival, the oldest festival of its kind in the world.

Film or video to be entered for competition should be by or about American Indian or First Nations peoples and should have been produced in 2000 or 2001.

The major categories for competition are: documentary feature; documentary short; commercial feature; and public service in industrial.

Promotional materials including production credits, black and white publicity stills, and a typewritten narrative description of each entry, not exceeding 150 words, should be included. Each entry must include: completed entry form; screening cassette; signed regulations agreement form; and $50 entry fee payable to: "American Indian Film Institute." The entrant is responsible for shipment costs to and from San Francisco. The entry deadline is Aug. 17.

A film jury designated by the American Indian Film Institute will screen entries and issue recommendations to final program and awards nomination. The week of Sept. 24, 2001, entrants will be notified as to entrant selection into the 2001 American Indian Film Festival and Video Exposition.

Recognizing outstanding Indian cinematic accomplishments, the American Indian Motion Picture Awards will be presented on the evening of Nov. 10 at the Palace of Fine Arts in San Francisco.

The American Indian Film Institute is a nonprofit media arts center founded in 1979 to foster understanding of the culture, traditions and issues of contemporary Native Americans.

"Combining education with celebration, the American Indian Film Festival brings the rich cultural heritage and diversity of our nation's first people into a forum where it can be shared via the magic of the silver screen, and the power of good storytelling." The American Indian Film Festival strives to improve: the distribution of films by and about American Indians; developing a marketplace for Indian media artists to cultivate financial resources; and creating production and distribution channels, while opening up a network of technical support and resource — sharing among Indian producers, directors, writers, and actors/actresses.

Entry forms may be obtained online or by writing: Attn: Michael Smith, American Indian Film Institute, 333 Valencia St., Suite 322, San Francisco, CA 94103; or e-mail indianfilm@aifisf.com.

Indian Land Consolidation Symposium

CARLTON, Minn. — The Indian Land Working Group announces the 11th Annual Indian Land Consolidation Symposium to be hosted by the Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa.

The symposium will be held Oct. 8 through 12.

The facilities for this conference will be the Black Bear Casino and Hotel, owned and operated by the Fond du Lac Band. Hotel Rates are: single, $49; double or suite, $69; or poolside, $79. For more hotel information, call 1 (800) 553-0022, extension 7435.

On July 31 registration packets and a draft agenda will be available online at: www.nativeamericanonline.com.

For more information, contact Amy Bilderback at (218) 878-2620 or e-mail amybilderback@fdlrez.com or Theresa Carmody at (505) 668-9013 or (505) 247-9561 or email tcarmody@nnmt.net.

Atlas of disparities in heart disease released

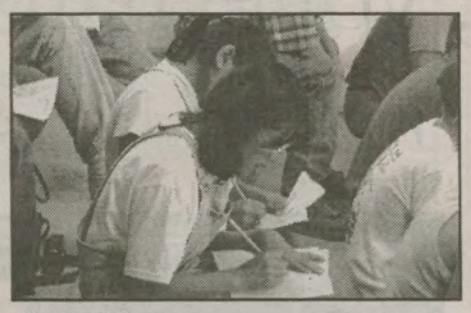
ATLANTA — The greatest burden for heart dis-

please see **NOTICES**..., page 20

Youth development program developing swine program

STILLWATER — In June, several members of the Muscogee Nation 4-H program attended Roundup, a three-day statewide event on the Oklahoma State University campus.

Nearly 1,000 participants over the age of 13 attended career workshops, dances, developmental presentations, and rallies. Program members also participated in the Tulsa Summer Commercial Cattle Grading Contest.



submitted photo

Okfuskee Este Cate 4-H Club members Natasha and Nessa Tiger (view obstructed) participate in the commercial cattle grading school and contest held at the Tulsa Stockyards.

Additionally, steps are being taken to develop a swine program for interested 4-H members. The goal of this project is to teach youth: proper care; nutrition; maintenance; and responsibility aspects of animal ownership. The program design is to prepare the animals and owners to compete in a spring livestock contest. For a selected number of qualifying youth, funds are available to assist with the cost of purchasing and feeding the animal.

Individuals interested in learning more about 4-H may contact Extension Educator Jamie Littlefield at (918) 756-8700, ext. 610 or toll free at (800) 482-1979.

submitted photo

Okfuskee Este Cate 4-H Club members check out the Tulsa Stockyards after the commercial cattle grading school and contest. Pictured, left to right, are: Nessa Tiger; Natasha Tiger; Katrina Tiger; Jorena Hicks; and Amanda Johnson.

Her office is located in the human development building on the tribal capitol complex in Okmulgee.

Enrollment for this program is open to youth ranging in ages five to 19 who reside within the boundaries of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Mvskoke Red Stick Society in final stages of officially forming

OKMULGEE — Officers for a new society of tribal combat veterans are currently finalizing documentation that they intend to submit to the Muscogee National Council to seek official recognition.

The overall mission of the Red Stick Society (Combat Veterans) is to promote heritage to Muscogee people. The society intends to make a permanent written and visual record of the contributions of combat veterans available for future generations. A secondary mission of the Red Stick Society is to coordinate and assist other American Tribes and Nations to foster and form their own combat veteran societies.

The qualifications for membership include:

- actual combat experience;
- personal award or unit award;
- combat designation device;
- involvement in actions that directly contributed to destruction of personnel and equipment;
- Purple Heart;
- Service Record Book;
- documentation of witnesses;
- a support MOS in time of war and not engaged in combat is not a qualifier, and
- all members will be screened to verify information.

Officers and a planning council has been installed until a forum of elected officers can be established. They are: president, Ernest Childers; vice president, Amos Harjo; secretary, Davis; and sergeant at arms, Phillip Coon.

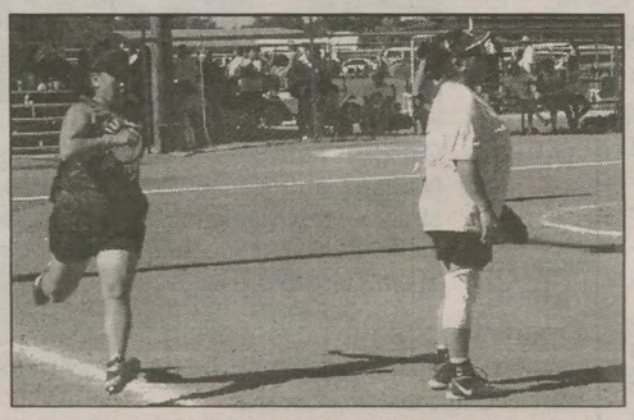
Officers encourage all Muscogee combat veterans to contact them for more information.

To request an data sheet/application, call Davis at (402) 698-2394.

27th Annual Muscogee Nation Festival softball, volleyball & basketball

June 15th,16th, & 17th

The Warriors took on Bad Medicine in a hot game. From left to right are: Charley Frey; Locust Buck; Charley Knifechief; Bubba Carson; Ivan Bear; and Mike Manley



Jamie Watson of Oklahoma Tribes easily beats the throw to first base

Roland Gord of Green Bats brings the heat

Crimson Crew, foreground, battles Red Sand in a tough match of sand volleyball at the Creek Nation Festival

photos by Gerald Wofford

Frisco Yargee of Builders Still waits patiently for the ball while catcher Kenny King of Green Bats does the same

Left to right: Rocky Locust, Vernon Powell, Shawn Williams, and Daniel Allen fight for the rebound in a game between the Blue Devils and the Sooner Indians.

Sonya Smith of Oklahoma Tribes prepares to throw one right down the alley

Olympics

June 15th

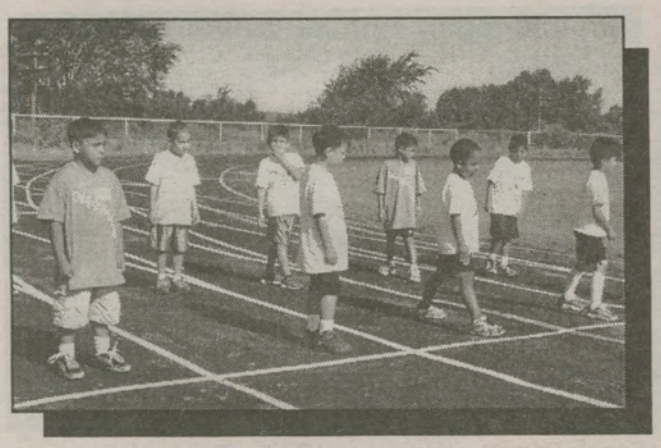
Candace Vardell assists Kim Billy after the 50 meter run

A line of boys wait to participate in the hoop shoot contest

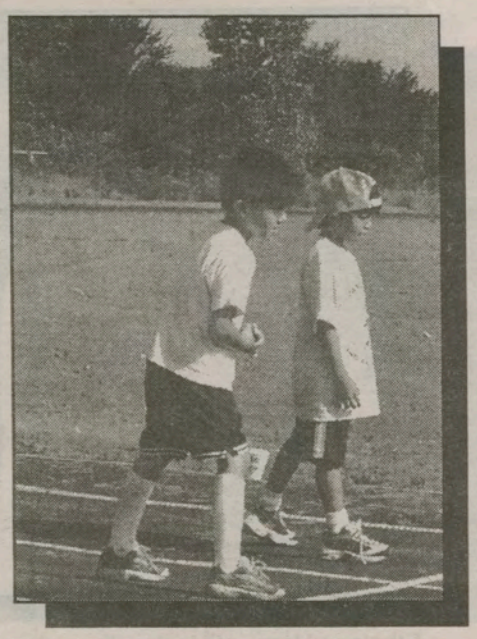
Destiny Cloud, Alasia Standing, Kim Billy, and Mia McCulley participate in the 50 meter run

This group of boys wait for the signal to take off

photos by
Denise Jacobs
and
Latasha Monahwee



Boys get ready to compete in the 50 meter run

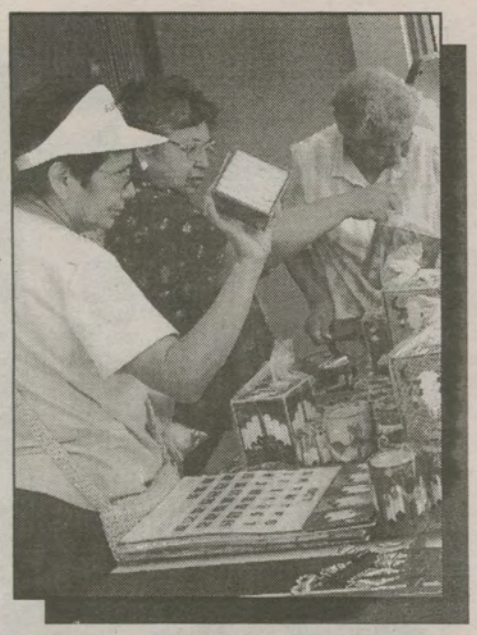


Two citizen prepare to take off

Left to right: Jonathan Cantrell, Jordon Proctor, Grant Proctor ,and Zackery Fogle of Hanna wait for their turn to compete.

Elderly activities

June 16th



Left to right: Delores Lasley, of Red Lake, Minn., and Carol Morris, of Tulsa, examine the crafts of Mary Street of Hitchita

photos by Stephanie Barnett

Julia Winningham, of Sapulpa, sales her wares

Lenora Tiger and Helen Coon, both of Sapulpa

Mvskoke Elder Council Chair, Esther M. Harley Grona, of Okmulgee, helps clean up

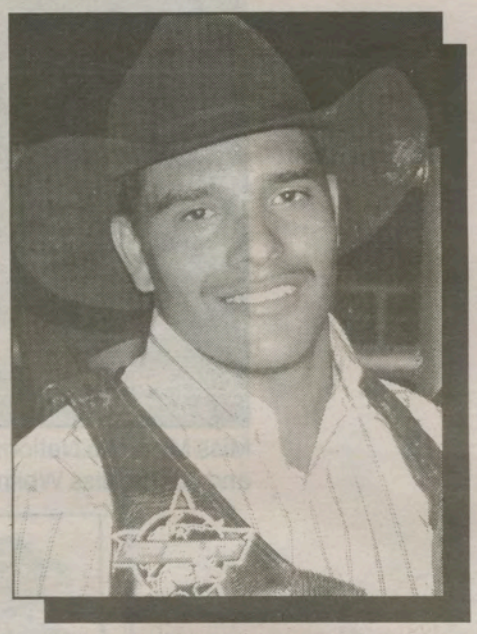
Martha Squire, of Coweta, and arts and crafts vendor Mary Street of Hitchita

Ethalene Harry, of Hectorville, visits with Thomas Tiger of Sapulpa

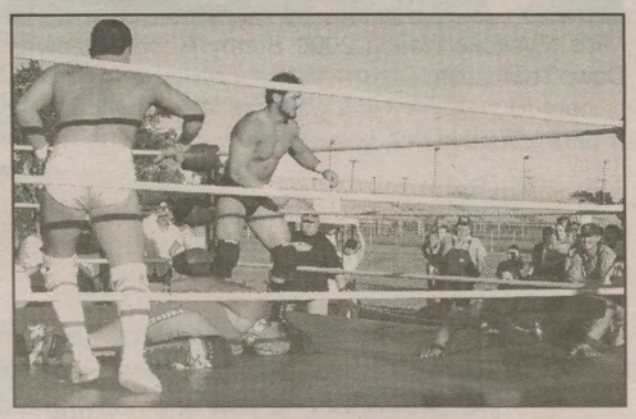
Fannie Barnett, of Dewar, and Bertha Taylor, of Henryetta, enjoy a game of bingo

Rodeo, stompdance, & wrestling

June 15th & 16th



Joe Hicks of Okmulgee won first place on Friday and second place on Saturday in the bull riding competition



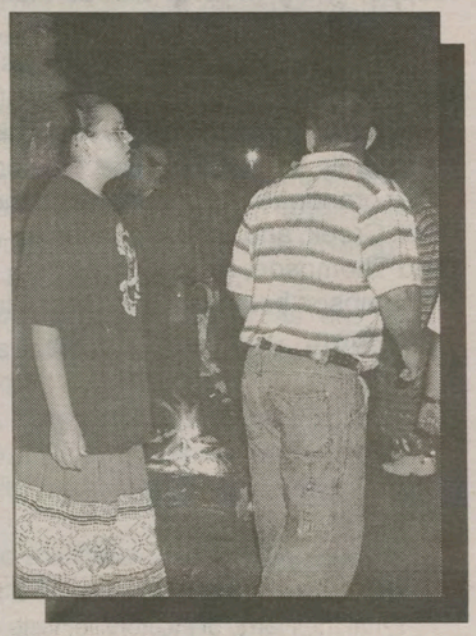
"Chief Red Eagle," on the mat, takes a pounding from an Italian tag team

"Chief Red Eagle"

photos by Denise Jacobs and Stephanie Barnett

Tiffany Sullivan of Nuyaka competed in the barrel racing event

Ceremonial ground members participate in the stompdance



Stompdance

"Chief Red Eagle" confronts Rocco Valentino

Muscogee N
June

Miss Mvskoke Nation 2001 Dawn Thompson holds her trophy and other awards after the pageant

Miss Mvskoke Nation 2000 Sunny Roberts crowns Dawn Thompson

Miss Mvskoke Nation Dawn Th
and Junior Miss Whitney Burde

First runner-up Laura Wilson of Morris and Miss Mvskoke Nation Dawn Thompson of Mounds

On June 14, Dawn Thompson was crowned Miss Mvskoke Nation 2001.

Thompson, who hails from Duck Creek community, is of the Muscogee and Euchee tribes.

Thompson said she always wanted to run for the title of Miss MCN. "I'm 21 and I knew this would be my last opportunity to compete...I also wanted to improve on my communication skills and I felt this year I could do the job of communicating with people."

Currently Thompson is employed with the tribe's Okmulgee Child Development Center. She is also attending Tulsa Technology Center where she is serving her second year as class president.

Thompson credits her parents, Carlin and Juanita Thompson, for giving her high morals and a "right way to live."

Among the many objectives Thompson plans to fulfill this year as Miss Mvskoke Nation include being a good representative to young people and teaching youth to respect themselves as well as their elders.

During the evening of the pageant, Thompson sang two Muscogee hymns — "Umvnicvs" and "Mekosape Fullvna" — for the talent category of the competition. She credits her grandfather, July Tulsa of Duck Creek community, for teaching her the songs.

Her grandparents are John and the late Mae Tulsa, Duck Creek, and Emily Johnson, of Ada, and the late Fred Thompson, Ada.

Thompson belongs to the Deer Clan and Locapokv Tribal Town.

Little Miss Mvskoke Nation Division I Tafv Marshall and first runner-up Kyrah Roberts

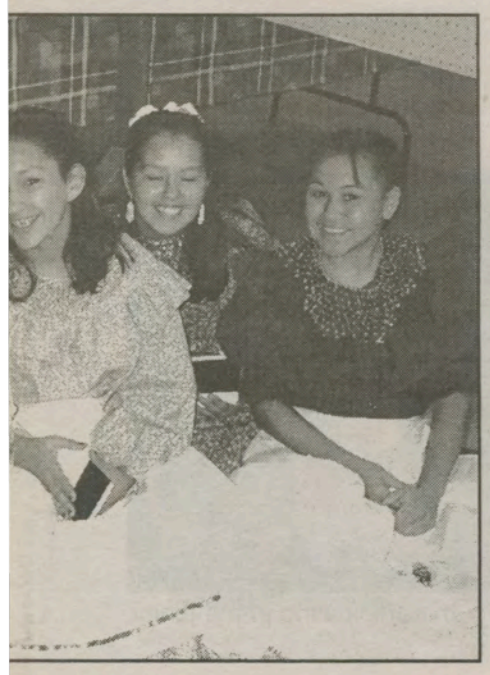
Left to right, front: Little Miss Mvskoke
Division II first runner-up Robin Hicks, a
Senior Ms. Mvskoke Nation Pearl Thom
and LMMN Division III Kristi Scott

Junior Miss Mvskoke Nation contestants, left to
Buckner; back — Talia Culley; Jessica Guthrie

ation Pageants
4 & 16

npson, Second Chief A.D. Ellis

ation Division II Makayla Paquin, LMMN
l LMMN Division I Tafv Marshall; back —
; Miss Mvskoke Nation Dawn Thompson;



nt, front: Terra Beaver; Whitney Burden; and Lydia
nd Jennifer Kelly

Roberts assists as Junior Miss Mvskoke Nation 2000 Kristy Burden hands over her crown to her little sister, Junior Miss Mvskoke Nation 2001 Whitney Burden, while Jennifer Kelley, Talia Culley, and Lydia Buckner watch

Junior Miss Mvskoke Nation 2001 Whitney Burden of Weleetka

Shock, surprise, and disbelief are words that Okmulgee citizen Pearl Thomas uses to describe her state of being when she was announced as the first Senior Ms. Mvskoke Nation during the Festival.

Thomas competed against three other women, including Okemah citizen Marie Berryhill, for the title. Much to Thomas' surprise, Berryhill was named first runner-up.

"I already had my winner picked," said Thomas. " I thought it was going to be Marie."

She said her impetus for entering the competition was to honor her mother, Peggy Chalakee, who passed away last August. "Had she been here, I would have entered her. I just did it...in memory of her."

The contestants competed in categories of: traditional dress; talent; poise and personality; and impromptu question.

She revered her late uncle, Eugene Sunny, in her response to the impromptu question which inquired as to what traditional or cultural lessons/experiences have made the most impact on the lives of the contestants. "He taught us to sing and he taught us to pray," she said of her uncle. Sunny, Honey Creek United Methodist Church Father, reinforced his lessons by calling upon young Pearl to lead prayer and hymns in church.

She further revered her uncle by singing a Maskoke/English hymn rendition that he used to lead. The song begins with the first two verses of "Hesaketvmese Likes," sung to the tune of "Higher Ground," followed by verses from the English hymn.

"I was very, very nervous with the talent part," she said of her performance in front of an audience around 150 at the Omniplex stage. "I'm used to singing in church where I'm comfortable."

Thomas said her objectives as Senior Ms. are "to represent the seniors to the best of my ability through speaking and singing."

"My family is very, very proud," she said of: husband, Pod; children, Randy Thomas and Patricia Killian; and grandchildren, Andrew Thomas and Jennifer Kilian.

Thomas belongs to the Bear Clan and is also the daughter of Rueben Chalakee. She is a lay leader and Sunday school teacher at Honey Creek.

Pearl Thomas, far right, sings a Mvskoke hymn for the talent category of the Senior Ms. competion. Other contestants, pictured left to right, are Marie Berryhill, Deloise Johnson, and Martha Reece

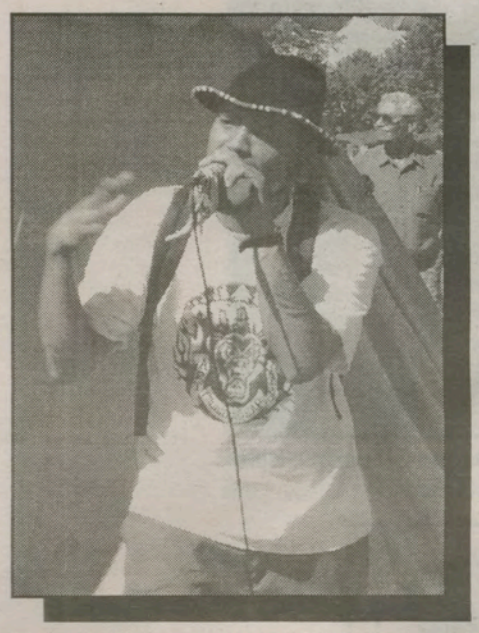
Little Miss Mvskoke Nation Division III Scott is crowned by Second Chief Ellis

Entertainment

June 15th & 16th

Mel McDaniel performs one of his award-winning songs

Butch Powell, center, of "Butch Powell and the Seneca Band"



"Julian B." performs his song "Revolution" for youth participating at the junior olympics

"Medicine Pony"

photos by Denise Jacobs and Stephanie Barnett

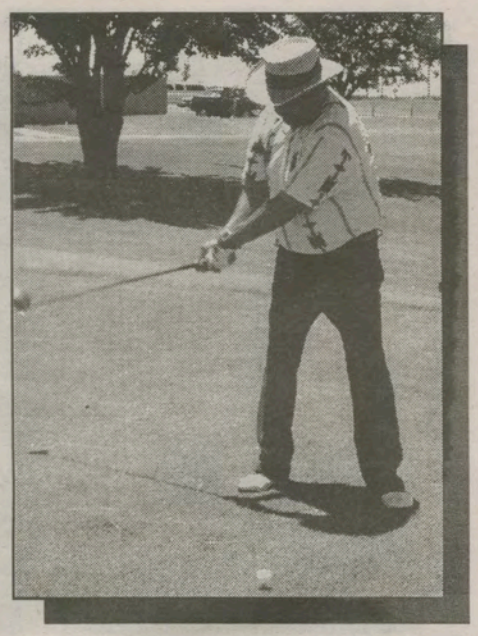
"Smilin Vic and the Soul Monkeys"

Mel McDaniel waves good-bye after his last performance

"Julian B." talks to the youth participating in the junior olympics

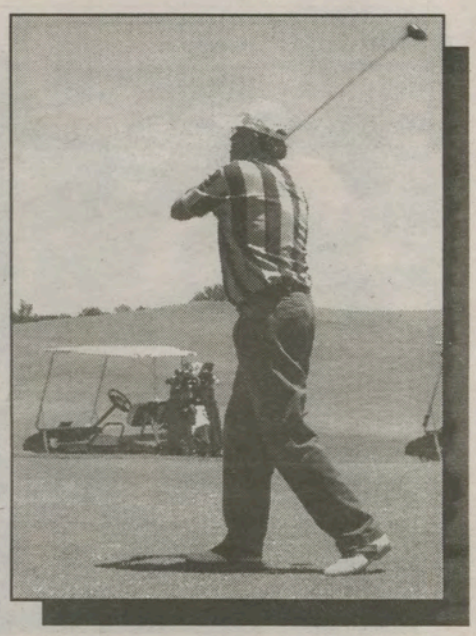
Golf & watermelon feed

June 16th



Lawrence Johnson of Pawnee gets ready to start the Creek Nation Festival Golf Tournament held at Cobblestone Creek Golf Course in Muskogee

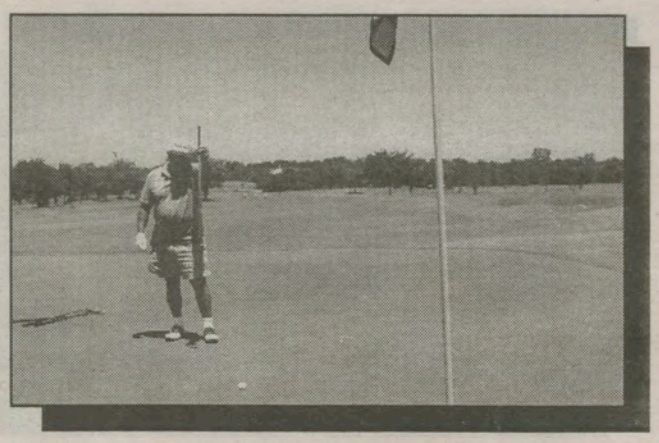
Kathy Haney of Morris helps hand out watermelon



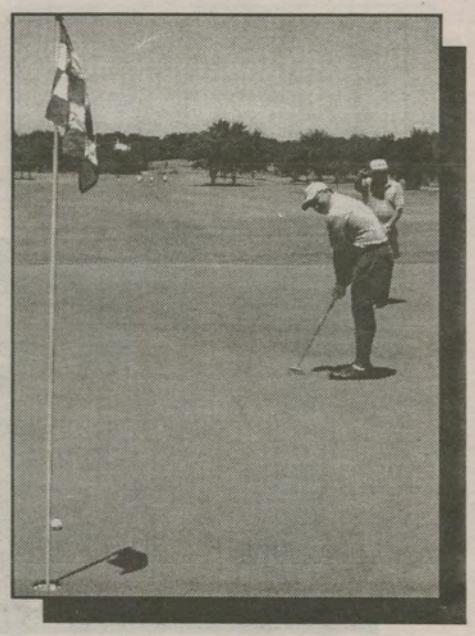
Phillip Cahwee of Sapulpa watches a beautiful shot take off and hit the greens down the fairway

photos by
Denise Jacobs
and
Gerald Wofford

Bill Wolfe looks on as Ronnie West from Ada tees off



Bobbie Jones of Stilwell sizes up the difficult putt he must make to stay in the hunt



Bobbie Jones, background, watches nervously as Lonnie Winney putts one toward the hole

Jaycee Wilson, Alia, Tony, Alisa Ballou, and Todd Wilson enjoy the watermelon under the shade trees.

Tennis, horseshoes & 5K run

June 16th

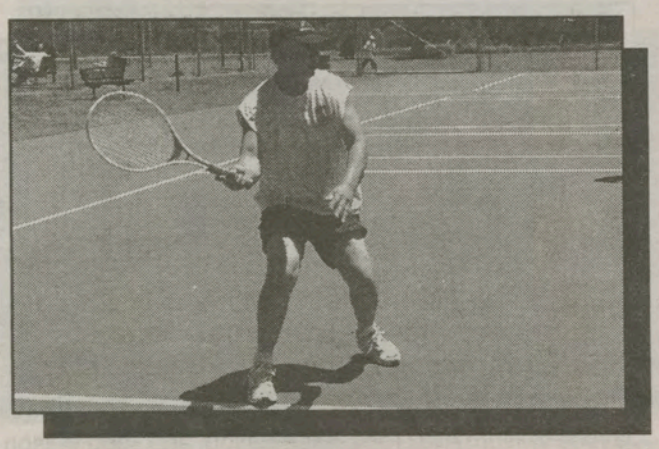
Lloyd Beaver of Okemah competes hard in the horseshoe competition

Samuel Thomas of Eufaula watches the horseshoe in mid-air, anxiously hoping for a ringer

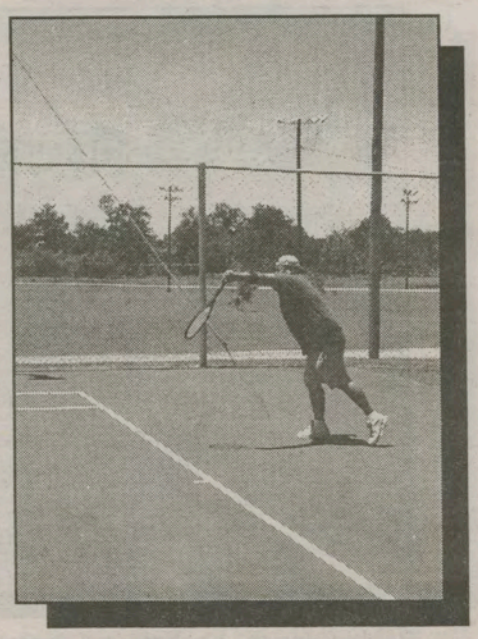
LeAnn Jack of Hanna proves that horseshoe pitching is not just for the men

photos by Gerald Wofford

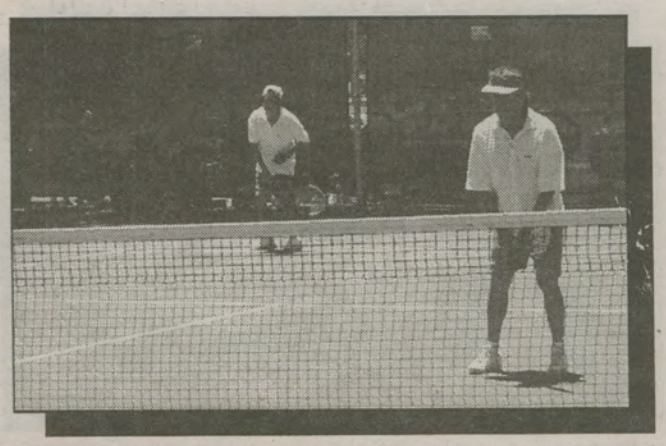
Male and female winners in the 5K run were, left to right: Chris Madison—third place; Tom Lam—second place; Patrick Thomas—first place; Felicia Fleming—first place; Patty Powell—second place; and Susie Harrison—third place



Muscogee citizen Floyd Bales shows off his powerful forearm tennis ball smash



Okmulgee citizen Chebon Gouge returns a serve



Tennis partners in crime Paul Harjo, in background, and Norman Harjo tag team the competition

Education

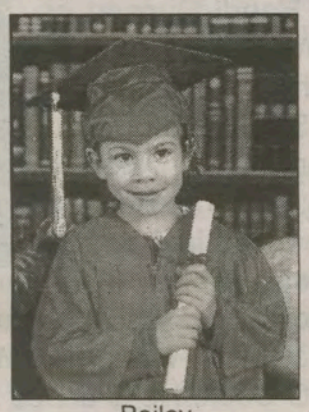
Jessica Bailey

TAHLEQUAH — Jessica Lynn Bailey graduated from kindergarten at Briggs School on May 7.

She received the citizenship award and a diploma. She is an active member of the Rainbow Club.

She is the daughter of Wayne and Sharon Bailey of Proctor.

Her grandparents are Jim and Chanenna Davis of Hanna and Joe and Catherine Bailey of Proctor.



Bailey

Bailey is the great-granddaughter of the late Woodrow and Eleanor Sulphur, Eufaula.

Student wins national art logo contest

TAHLEQUAH — Eufaula tribal citizen Adam East received first place and $200 for his entry in a national art logo contest.

East, 18, has attended Talking Leaves Job Corps since September 2000. He is a trainee in the field of material handler.

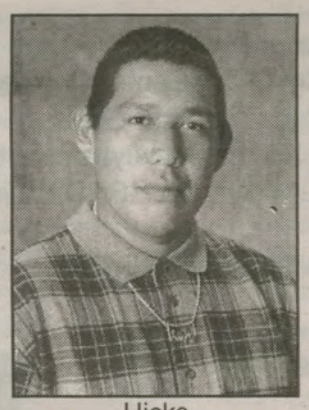
East's winning entry, "Circle of Partners," was featured on the program cover of the National Indian and Native American Employment and Training Conference.

He is the grandson of Martha and the late Willie Phillips of Eufaula.

Mason youth to play baseball in Hawaii

CASTLE — Sagey Joe Hicks has been selected to play baseball in Hawaii with World Class Sports from July 31 through Aug. 7.

He has played baseball at Mason High School for four years with a batting average of .396. Hicks plays the positions of pitcher, catcher, and various other positions. He played two years in the Little River Conference All Star and All Conference teams. Hicks also plays basketball and was chosen for the Little River Conference All Tournament and All Star teams and Bowlegs Tournament All Tournament Team.



Hicks

Sagey is the son of Simmer and Sharon Hicks.

His grandparents are Lorene and the late Joe Hicks of Castle, Thomas Harjo of Shawnee, and the late Lillie Harjo, Wewoka.

He is a member of Okfuskee Ceremonial Ground. Hicks plans to further his education and to play basketball and baseball.

Eufaula girl wins Pre-Teen Oklahoma title

OKLAHOMA CITY — Shelly Franz won the 2001 Pre-Teen Oklahoma Program title held during Memorial Day weekend.

She competed against 125 participants throughout the state for the scholarship/recognition program. The program recognizes girls who excel in academics, community service, and school activities.

Franz received first runner up in the speech competition after having competed against 96 other girls. She will hold the title for one year and will be traveling to four states, including the 2001 national program competition in Baton Rouge, La. in July and the 2002 event in Birmingham, Ala. She won a $1,000 higher education scholarship in addition to her title and trophies. She has been competing in the Pre-Teen Oklahoma Program since she was seven years old.

Franz

Franz will be an eighth grader at Stidham Elementary School.

She is the daughter of Sharon Dalgarn Franz of Eufaula. Her grandparents are Sue and the late James Lewis Dalgarn of Eufaula.

Glenpool girl named most valuable player

GLENPOOL — Athena Watashe, a member of the Glenpool Lady Warrior's basketball team, recently received most valuable player and Tulsa 7 All Conference for 2000-01.

She will be a senior at Glenpool High School. Watashe has maintained a 3.3 grade point average and is a member of the National Honor Society and Heritage Club. She also plans to participate on the Lady Warrior Softball Team

School reunions

Eufaula Boarding School

EUFAULA — A reunion of students who attended the Eufaula Boarding School from 1973 through 1983 is slated for Aug. 11.

Individuals that are interested in attending this reunion are requested to send their names, addresses, telephone numbers, and party number to: Sherry Thomas-Guffey, P.O. Box 841, Okmulgee, OK 74447; Betty Bunny, 1500 E. 3rd, Okmulgee, OK 74447; Christine Harjo McKinney, 210 Farris Dr., Earlsboro, OK 74840; or Arnold Jefferson, 3815 Grimes Road, Beggs, OK 74421.

Haskell Alumni Association of Oklahoma

TULSA — The annual Haskell Alumni Association of Oklahoma Reunion and golf scramble will be held Sept. 14 through 16 at Adam's Mark Hotel.

Reunion activities and events include: Sept. 14, reception; Sept. 15, golf scramble, dinner (reservations must be made) and dance; and Sept. 16, brunch.

All Haskell alumni and friends are encouraged to attend. Those reserving rooms may request special Haskell rates by calling (800) 444-2326.

For more information, contact: Joyce Childers Bear at (918) 756-8700, ext. 602 or e-mail cultural@ocevnet.org; or Flo Tanner Spotted Bear at (918) 342-6403.

Muscogee Nation Yeager Head

Yeager Head Start 2000-01 graduation class, left to right, front row: Kyle Dyer; Levi Fish; Kianna Lysinger; middle row — Kylie Oliver; Damien Patrick; Hunter Robinson; Zane Boyd; Devin Shields; and back row — Joshua Rogers; Taylon Culley; Jordan Johnson; Makaela Clark; Tamera Hill; Vicki Gant, teacher.

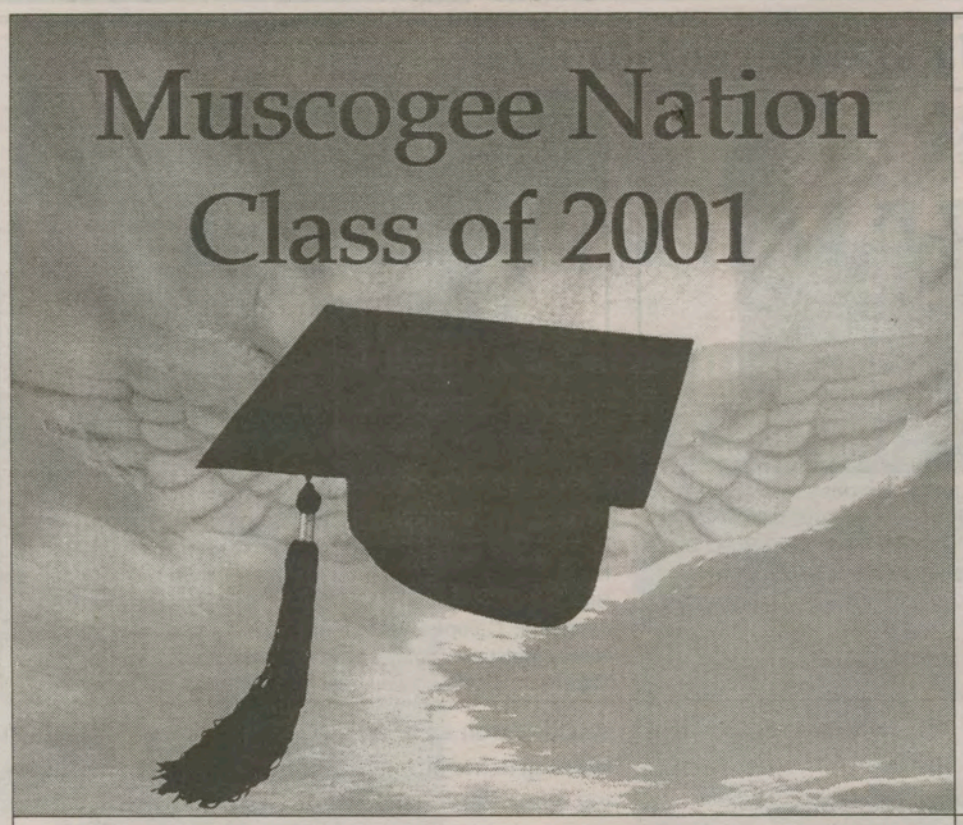
Three year old class, left to right, first row: Courtney Merrick; Daran Patrick; Logan Johnston; Samantha Johnson; Nikiah Lysinger; second row — Lola Hill; Trevor Keefer; Bailey Medlock; Dakota Scott; Tristan Flanner; third row — Aleedra Baker; Martina Roberts; Kianna Lincoln; Kayla Crawford; Sara Jennings; Calupe Byerly; fourth row — Micki Deer, teacher; Nancy Hulstine, family service worker; Janice Lowe, center supervisor; Sonia Bishop, teacher's aide

Johnson O' Malley progam banquet for Okmulgee seniors

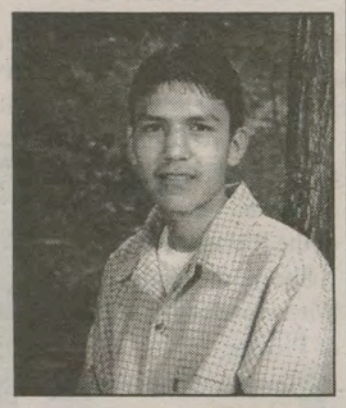
Fancy shawl dancer Kricket Shields of Carnegie perfoms for Okmulgee JOM students at their banquet.

Belvin Hill, activity coordinator for the tribal program, gives flowers to Okmulgee guest speaker A. Baya Sanchez Grynes, a recruiter and counselor from the University of Oklahoma College of Engineering.

photos by Denise Jacobs



Michael Lynn Dunson, Jr.



Dustin High School
Parents: Mike and Randi Dunson of Okemah and Donna Watson of Tulsa
Grandparents: Liz Yahola of Okemah; the late James Earl "Sonny" Dunson, Okemah; Alice Watson of Dustin; the late Ray Watson, Okemah; Lucille and the late Earl Dunson, Glenpool; the late Bertha and Lyman Yahola, Wetumka
Plans: currently attending Advanced Individual Training at Fort Lee, Va. Upon completion of the 10-week AIT training course he will be certified as MOS-92-G Cook. He is based at HSC - 120th Engineers in Okmulgee.

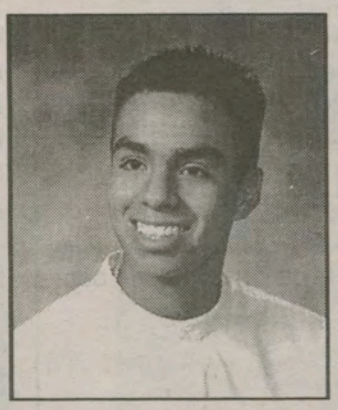
Lila Garrett

Southern Nazarene University, Bethany
Degree: bachelor of science degree in family studies and gerontology
Clan and tribal town: Alligator and Okfuskee
Parents: Lillian Thomas of Okmulgee and Pat Garrett of Oktaha
Grandparents: Lillie and the late Jinkie Thomas of Preston
Plans: currently employed as a victims' advocate for Muscogee Nation Children and Family Services

Leslie Montemayor

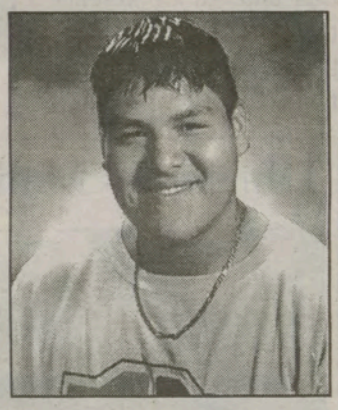
Northwest Classen High School, Oklahoma City
Parents: Wesley and Wendy Montemayor of Oklahoma City
Grandparents: Liz Yahola of Okemah; the late James Earl "Sonny" Dunson, Okemah; Thelma Jean Noon of Wetumka; Robert Anderson Sr. of Gracemont; Lucille and the late Earl Dunson, Glenpool; the late Bertha and Lyman Yahola, Wetumka; the late Lee Anna Noon and Nathan Noon, Wetumka
Awards and activities: softball, three years; most valuable player 2000-2001 softball season; Big All City Conference Team Honorable Mention; volleyball, two years; voted most athletic girl, senior year; principal's honor roll, three years; National Honor Society; and first place, Native American Student Art Show; FCCLA secretary; P.R.I.D.E. group; Montesoma Baptist Church member;
Plans: to attend Northeastern State University and major in elementary ed.

Jarod Mosquito



Mounds High School
Clan: Bird
Parents: Craig and Debbie Mosquito
Awards and activities: Mounds Golden Eagle Iron Man; all district defensive back; defensive player of the year in basketball; and offensive player of the year receiving all district honors in baseball; senior class president and Indian Club president
Plans: to attend college and pursue a degree in computers and telecommunications

Derek Conrad Sands



Weleetka High School
Parents: John and Diane Chastain and the late Sandy Sands
Awards and activities: all conference; all district; all state; football; Mr. WHS; and WHS most popular; FCA; FCLA; FFA; psych club; Native American club; FHA; baseball, four years; basketball, four years; and football, four years
Plans: to attend Northeastern State University to play football and major in social work

Joshua Ross Spradling

Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas
Degree: bachelor of arts with departmental distinction in communication arts: public affairs and corporate communications
Grandparents: Jack and Yvonne Haikey Spradling and the late Jesse Haikey, all of Broken Arrow

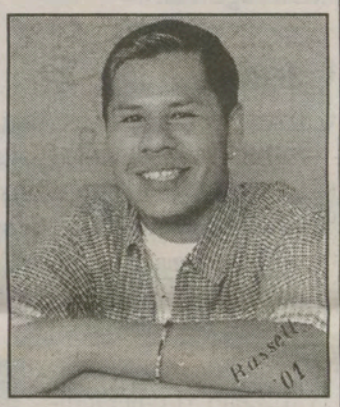
Roberta Lynn Thomas

Okmulgee High School
Parents: Lillian and Jim Thomas of Okmulgee
Grandparents: Lillie and the late Jinkie Thomas, Preston and the late Robert and Norma Thomas, Paris, Ark.
Awards and activities: USAA All American Scholar; Who's Who Among American High School Students; student of the month, four years; Oklahoma Honor Society; National Honor Society; Academic Letter "O" Award; delegate to Oklahoma Girl's State; OHS Marching Band, four years; OHS Band Queen; student council, four years; valedictorian; OIC Scholarship; Johnson O' Malley Scholarship; and Martin Luther King Scholarship
Plans: to attend the University of Oklahoma and major in anthropology

Larry Don Thompson Jr.

Glenpool High School
Parents: Larry Don Thompson
Grandparents: the late William Henry Thompson; Helen Sawyer; Carol Sue Tulsa; and the late George Lee Tulsa
Awards and activities: football; track; baseball; fancy dance; Heritage Club; and Intertribal Indian Club of Tulsa Dance Troop
Plans: to attend Tulsa Community College

Russel D. Wind



Sequoyah High School
Parents: Allen and Susie Fixico Wind
Grandparents: Daniel and the late Wanda Wind and the late Robert and Mamie Fixico
Awards and activities: geometry; Native American history; Academic Bowl; Tsa-La-Gi Cultural Activities Achievement; Sequoyah Alumni Foundation; and Riley White Award; gifted and talented program; National Honor Society; art club; football captain, NEIA; and Academic Bowl Team
Plans: to attend Northeastern State University and major in optometry

David Christopher Earl Williams

Charles Page High School, Sand Springs
Parents: Linda and Marty Oberly of Yukon
Grandparents: Annie Mae and the late Richard O'Field, Kvncate area
Awards and activities: dean's honor roll, four years; football; Sand Springs Leader Football Offensive Player of the Week; homecoming football royalty escort, 2000; Who's Who Among American High School Students, 2000; Sandite Hall of Fame Senior Nominee, 2001; basketball; freshman king candidate; all American scholar; football, freshman year; Sandite Quarterback Club Scholarship; James Harrison "Buddy" Riggs Scholarship; Sand Springs Masonic Lodge #475 Scholarship; Native American Student Association, four years; baseball; and attends First Assembly of God, Sand Springs
Plans: to play football at Southern Nazarene University and major in business adminstration/accounting

Lisa Marie Williams

Henryetta High School
Clan: Deer
Parents: Vincent and Wanda Williams of Henryetta
Grandparents: Rosie and the late Jackson Bruner of Henryetta and Bobby Williams and Ann McGirt, both of Henryetta
Awards and activities: basketball, Indian all state, first team; Shiners Tournament, three years; Morris tournament, three years; all conference, three years; softball, all region, three years; Keota tournament; ISA, all state; NSA all state; NSA World Series, Chattanooga, Tenn.; track, state qualifier; 1-mile relay, three years; 2-mile relay, three years; 400 meter relay, three years; 800 meter relay, three years; state runner-up, 800 meter relay; YIBC member
Plans: to attend Connors State College on a softball scholarship

Births

Toby Meely

ADA — Toby Lynn Meely was born May 1 at Carl Albert Indian Hospital to Arnold and Alex Michelle Meely of Holdenville.

She weighed 8 pounds, 12 ounces and was 20.3 inches in length.

Meely

Her maternal grandparents are Janice Bailey of Okemah, Edward Bailey of Holdenville. Her great-grandmother is Dorothy Pinezaddleby of Morris.

Her paternal grandmother is Elizabeth Meely of Holdenville. Her great-grandparents are the late Robert and Mamie Fixico, Holdenville.

Her uncles are Raymond and Preston Meely of Muskogee.

She belongs to the Wind Clan and has one sister, Andy Wolfe, age four.

Careers

Citizen recognized as distinguished alumni

TULSA — Shelly Stubbs Crow, of Henryetta, entered Tulsa Community College with a simple plan to become a nurse. When she was recently honored at the Third Annual Best of TCC Event, her award recognized her accomplishments in health care and on behalf of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Crow

Crow and 31 other individuals, nominated by Tulsa area companies or organizations, were recognized as distinguished TCC alumni and graduates who have demonstrated a high level of professionalism and success in the workplace.

After entering TCC in 1973 to pursue a nursing degree, Crow developed a desire to serve her community with her newfound skills. She became the first woman elected second chief for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Crow has represented the tribe and Oklahoma in many capacities, including appointments to the Tulsa Indian Affairs Commission, Oklahoma Human Rights Commission, and the State Adolescent Teen Pregnancy Prevention Commission. She served on President Reagan's first AIDS Task Force and President Clinton's Health Care Reform Team.

In addition to her duties as a health care consultant and as a nurse for Dustin Public Schools, Crow is one of 18 members of the National Advisory Committee on Rural Health — advising the president and Congress on rural health issues.

Crow is a founder of the John Crow IV Foundation, which awards college scholarships and develops programs that increase the self-esteem of Oklahoma youth.

In addition to her TCC associate's degree, Crow has two nursing degrees — a bachelor's degree from Northeastern State University and a master's degree from the University of Oklahoma.

Crow has been an instructor at Langston University and the University of Tulsa. She has written articles on Native American health issues for several health care textbooks and presented papers on those issues at National Rural Health Association conferences.

Hanna Indian Community getting back on its feet

Hanna Indian Community is quickly getting back on its feet since being reinstated as a tribally chartered community in April.

Since that time community members have elected officers, held a yard sale, volleyball and horseshoe tournaments, and is currently sponsoring a school supplies drive for all youth living within Hanna Indian Community boundaries.

Community officers are: Stella Simpson, president; Gary Mitchell, vice-president; Susie Harjo, secretary-treasurer; Naomi Harjo, reporter; and Richard Williamson Williams, sergeant-at-arms.

During the period that the center was closed, thieves had stripped the community well of its parts, leaving members without water until recently. After the community purchased a new pump, local townsmen came to the community members assistance, said Simpson, community president. Local townspeople have also volunteered to help the community build a baseball diamond in time for a softball tournament they plan to hold during Hanna's Watermelon Festival on Aug. 4.

"I feel like were all together in this; were just like a big family. I know a lot of them are glad to see it come alive, I guess you could say," said Simpson.

The community's "Christmas in July for School Supplies" donation drive — for all school children living within Hanna Indian Community boundaries — is underway. The community is accepting donations through July. Items such as: clothing; pens; pencils; magic markers; crayons; paper; spiral notebooks; rulers; scissors; calculators, etc., may be dropped off at the community center. From the U.S. Post Office in Hanna, the center is located three miles east on the south side of the road.

Community members are holding a food bingo at 1 p.m., July 14. Its regular meetings at 7 p.m. on the first Monday of each month.

For more information, call Simpson at (918) 657-2687.

Sports

Girl's soccer team has winning season

OWASSO — Dayna Sherrell's soccer team, the "Hurricanes," enjoyed an undefeated season last spring.

Sherrell

She is a member of the Green Country Soccer Association. Sherrell played with the six and under division during the spring season. She has played for three seasons. She is also a member of the Girls Softball Association, T-ball/coach pitch.

Dayna belongs to the Raccoon Clan and Kialegee Tribal Town.

She is the daughter of Robert and Della Sherrell of Owasso. She has three younger sisters: Makayla, Rhanda, and Kaylynn.

Her maternal grandparents are Millie Scott and James Larney of Yeager and the late Howard Scott. Her paternal grandparents are Virginia Wall of Tulsa and the late David Sherrell.

Team wins Haskell fastpitch tournament

LAWRENCE, Kan. — The Oklahoma/Kansas Allstar team won the Seventh Annual Haskell All-Indian Men's Fastpitch Tournament held during the weekend of May 12 and 13 at Clinton Lake Sports Complex.

In the tournament bracket game the Allstars beat last year's champion, Seminoles of Florida, 4-3. In the finals the team defeated Oklahoma Arrows 7-1 to win the tournament. The Allstars were undefeated. Previously, all other teams that had won this tournament were beaten once.

The tournament was composed of 15 teams from: Florida; South Dakota; Texas; Oklahoma; Missouri; and Kansas. The top four tournament finishers were: Oklahoma/Kansas Allstars; Oklahoma Arrows; Seminoles of Florida; and Shades of Red.

The Allstars' pitcher Myron Bolin of Tahlequah was selected as most valuable player. The tournament Allstar players selected were: Gary Girty; Vernon Yarholar; Rick Jones; Lowell Mitchensen; Rich Brewer; Ken Billingsley; David Beets; Ronnie EagleRobe; and Aaron Ahkahbo.

Andy Girty of Lawrence is the team coach and manager.

Muscogee People

continued from page 1

start the idea of not necessarily just passing on the language, but the culture as well," he said of himself and other MLI board members George Bunny and Blue Clark.

Isham defines that as not just showing someone how to play stickball or stompdance, but how to conduct themselves as well. "The idea, such as respecting our elders, is very important and needs to be shared as a part of our culture and heritage and to pass on information — such as a responsibility to ones family, community, and to ones self."

Isham, who reads, writes, and understands the Mvskoke language, has taught the language at the university and community level since 1995. He has plans to carry his language work over into museum programming via language and hymn-singing classes.

Isham feels confident about achieving his goals and fortunate to have been selected as curator. "I'm really humbled and in awe of being selected. I didn't want to take the job if there was someone more qualified, but with the support I've received, I'm extremely happy about it."

Isham belongs to the Wind Clan and Tulmuchusse Tribal Town. He is the son of Christine Wolf of Lamar and the grandson of the late Cheparney Davis, Sasakwa, and Martha Bruner, Lamar.

He and his wife, Debra, have two daughters, Tina Isham-Amos and Sara Kernal.

BEN BEAVER

OKMULGEE — Funeral services for Ben Beaver were held on May 26 at McClendon Funeral Home Chapel with Revs. Amos Harjo and Matthew Tiger officiating.

Beaver died on May 22 at Okmulgee Memorial Hospital. He was born to Hallyamson and Miley Alexander Beaver in Okmulgee.

He was a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corp. Beaver had been a dorm supervisor at Haskell Indian Junior College.

He is survived by: his wife, Louise Chism Beaver, of the home; sons Tom Beaver of Kansas City, Mo. and Richard Beaver of Woodberry, Minn.; a sister-in-law, Beulah Bazemore of Blytheville, Ark.; a brother-in-law, Edwin S. Moore, a grandson; and many other family members.

BESSIE JIMBOY

OKEMAH — Funeral services for Bessie Jimboy were held June 7 at Creek Chapel Methodist Church with Revs. Malcolm Tiger and Edwin Jimboy officiating.

She died June 3 in Okemah. She was born Jan. 15, 1914 in Weleetka to Tifney Anderson and Susie Canard.

She married Benjamin Jimboy on April 5, 1937. Jimboy was a resident of Oklahoma City for 20 years, having moved to the Okemah area in 1972 with her husband upon retirement. She was a housewife who enjoyed quilting and church work at Creek Chapel Methodist Church.

She was preceded in death by her husband and parents.

She is survived by: sons, J. Martin, Lonnie, and Loby Jimboy, all of Oklahoma City; daughter, Augustine McNac of Okemah; six grandchildren; five step grandchildren; ten great-grandchildren; one step great-grandchild and one great-great grandchild.

Interment was at the Creek Chapel Cemetery.

MATTHEW PIGEON

DUSTIN — Funeral services for Matthew Pigeon were held May 30 at Dustin High School Gym with Revs. A.J. Tiger and Richmond Carr officiating.

Wake services were held May 29 at Faith Baptist Church in Dustin.

He died May 26. He was born Dec. 17, 1985 in Ada to John Roger Coley and Kimberly Rena Pigeon.

He was a student at Dustin High School. He played basketball, baseball, enjoyed playing on the computer, and spending time with his cousins.

Preceding him in death were: his grandfather, Sunny Pigeon; and great-grandmother, Judy Pigeon.

Survivors include: his mother of San Antonio, Texas; his father of Rochester, N.Y.; siblings, Willard James, Temisha Rena, Faith LeDawn, and Starla Ann Cully, all of San Antonio, and Leisha, Jonathan, and Anthony Coley, all of Rochester; an aunt, Lela Goodman, of Dustin; and many other relatives and friends.

Pallbearers were: Johna Goodman; Billy Harjo; Chris Holuby; Eric Coley; Dale Mahan; and B.J. Hill. Honorary pallbearers were: Anthony Dunson; Cordell Huffman; Johnny Goodman; Lance Weeks; Erick Starr; and Joseph Proctor.

Interment was at the Pigeon Family Cemetery in Dustin.

WILEY SAMPSON

HITCHITA — Funeral services for Wiley Sampson were held on May 31 at Gravecreek Baptist Church with Revs. Alex Lowe and Mitchell Taylor officiating.

He died May 28 at Leisure Manor in Okmulgee. He was born Aug. 13, 1904 to Washington and Cinda Hill Sampson.

He was a retired laborer and farmer. He served as deacon at the Gravecreek church for many years. "Tinkering around" was his favorite pastime.

Preceding him in death were: his parents; son, Will Sampson; daughter, Shirley Ann Sampson; brothers, Edmond Rabbit, Joe Factor, and Walter Factor; sisters, Rosie Fields, Amanda Deere, and Lizze Roberts; and two grandchildren.

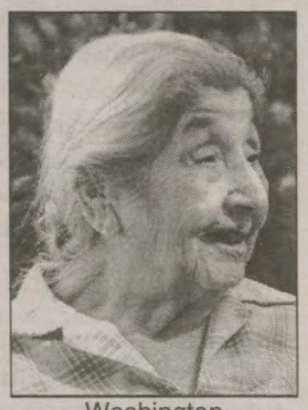
Survivors include: daughters, Vena Randall and Norma Bible, both of Okmulgee; sister, Alice Freeman of Morris; 23 grandchildren; 43 great-grandchildren; and 35 great-great-grandchildren.

Interment was at Gravecreek Cemetery.

ABBEY WASHINGTON

SAPULPA — Funeral services for Abbey Wilson Washington were held June 18 at Little Cussetah Baptist Church.

Wake services were held June 17 at Smith Funeral Home.


Washington

She died on June 14. She was born Sept. 15, 1898 in a log cabin in Bixby to Solomon and Mahala Tiger Wilson. She was a fullblood original allottee of the Bear Clan and Tuskegee Tribal Town.

In 1914, Abbey was baptized by Rev. Henry Land in Polecat Creek near Little Cussetah Baptist Church. She attended Euchee Mission Boarding School where she met her husband, Walter Johnson Washington. They were married Oct. 13, 1925 in Okmulgee and remained together until his death in 1982.

She was an active member of the WMU and her church prayer group; she had also held the office of church treasurer. Before her eyesight diminished, she enjoyed cooking, quilting, gardening, writing pen pals, and collecting postcards, salt and pepper shakers, and handkerchiefs. She resided on her homestead allotment where family members cared for her until her death.

Washington was preceded in death by: her husband; parents; brothers, William Biggs, Noonley Wilson, Simon Wilson, Absolom Leader, and Edward Leader; two great-great grandchildren, Timothy and Tesla Lane; and two nieces, Pauline Asbury and Juanita Wilson.

Survivors include: children, Bill Washington of Arlington, Va., Bernita Buck of Holdenville, Jerry Washington of Ada, Wiley Washington of Glenpool, Esther Lane and Loretta Harjo, both of Tulsa; 14 grandchildren; 28 great-grandchildren; 14 great-great grandchildren; and many relatives and friends.

Pallbearers were: Greg Washington; Buster Washington; Chebon Buck; Jerry Harjo; Bill Lane; and John Bachman. Honorary Pallbearers were: Phillip Fox; Richard Bachman; Herbert Fox; and Woodrow Wilson.

Interment was at Little Cussetah Cemetery.

Gratitude

During the recent loss of our Father, we would like to extend our appreciation and gratitude to relatives, co-workers, and friends who expressed their respect and concern. Perhaps you called, sent flowers, offered words of encouragement, remembered us in prayer, or extended a handshake.

Thanks to: Muscogee Nation Nation Social Services; Natural Resources; Jerry Whittman and Lighthorse Administration; Rev. Wayne Taryole; Thompson Gouge; Phillip Coon; Amos McNac; Trinity Hospice Care; Nuyaka Indian Baptist Church; Chumona Polecat; Ina Hicks; Judy Roberts; Lucinda Factor; Rosie Hicks; Mattie Corrino; and Nuyaka Indian Community.

Special thanks to: James Tiger; Hully Tiger; Clarence Tiger Jr.; Lerena Carney, Matthew, Jerome, and Sunny Ruth Robert Roberts.

Van Taryole Family

Religion

Thewarle church holding Creek singing

DUSTIN — Thewarle Baptist Church is holding a Creek singing from 7 to 10 p.m., July 14

Concessions will be available. Proceeds will benefit the church's Christmas fund.

For more information, contact George Bunny at (405) 947-7752.

Salt Creek church holding gospel singing

SALT CREEK — Salt Creek United Methodist Church is holding a gospel singing beginning at 7 p.m., July 28.

A hog fry will preceed the singing from 5 to 6:30 p.m.

The master of ceremonies is Al Brown

Indian Falls Creek being held

DAVIS — "Hear the Sound of the Trumpet" is the theme for the 54th Indian Falls Creek Baptist Assembly being held July 30 through Aug. 3

This year's family camp emphasis has been geared to educate youth and young adults about the need for pastors, missionaries, evangelism, and using selected life vocations for the "glory of God."

Adults will receive more training to help strengthen churches for the new church year which begins in September.

Morning activities include: Bible classes and applied ministry training for adults; vacation bible school for preschool through the sixth grade; and morning, as well as evening, children's church. Donnie Jones of Rocky Face, Ga., will be leading the youth in "The Student God Uses" during the morning youth sessions. The children's church director is "Tricky" Ricky Henson, an evangelist from Jonesboro, Ga.

Vern Charette, camp preacher, will be preaching during the evening joint worship services which will be held at 7:30 o'clock nightly. The worship team is: choir director — Jesse Hernandez, First Indian Baptist, Shawnee; worship leader — Keno King, Holdenville; and band leader — Donna Bear, First Indian Baptist, Moore. Special music guests include "Whisper Loud" and Heather Miller.

Afternoon recreational sports and special activities will also be held for all ages. A new activity, the ropes course, will be available on Thursday and Friday during the afternoon recreation time.

The camp registration fee for the entire week, which includes insurance coverage, is $6 for all ages. The Falls Creek Baptist Conference Center is located near Turner Falls in the Arbuckle Mountains of southcentral Oklahoma. Indian Falls Creek is a family camp attended each year by thousands of Native Americans from throughout the nation.

For more information, contact Sue Fish, promotion/publicity director, at (405) 321-4898 or e-mail pashofacsf@cs.com.

Letters

continued from page 2

Woman concerned about representatives

Editor:

Our attention must be directed to the five Tulsa District Representatives to the National Council. They will be out vigorously hustling your vote by making their usual empty broken promises again.

Some representatives are in there for their own agenda, whether it be for political or monetary gain or both. Their attendance records at mandatory Council meetings or community meetings will indicate just how serious they are about Tulsa District's best interests.

All our representatives voted against a legislative ordinance which we felt would have been in the best interests of Tulsa Creek Indian Community. The main representative who was blocking this progress was none other that Rep. Earl King. Earl King also had the gall to sponsor a bill that opposed the community's wishes for legislation that would have enabled TCIC to bail itself out of runaway debt. As an illegal member of the TCIC enterprise board he helped create astronomical debts, through his irrational decision making, in the amount of approximately $73,000 that the community has yet to recover.

This National Council approved ordinance National Council Act 99-87 — HECE Warehouse Corporation (nonexistent) — for $164,000. Our alert and wise principal chief saw through this and vetoed it. The National Council later had second thoughts about their earlier decision and wisely sustained his veto. The same Council voted themselves a salary increase with no justification for it.

Although the National Council enacts legislation that results in ordinances, Attorney General Susan Work will not take action when legals matters that need prompt decision making are referred to her. Why, then, do we need an attorney general and her staff when they ignore upholding tribal laws and making examples of individuals who violate the laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Let's band together in the upcoming election and clean house! We can do it! Your vote is a privilege; use it wisely, make it count!

Okema B. Randall, Broken Arrow

Notices

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ease exists among African American men and among men residing in parts of the rural south, according to a new report, "Men and Heart Disease: An Atlas of Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Mortality," released by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and West Virginia University.

"Men and Heart Disease" provides a first-ever comprehensive look at the geographical and racial/ethnic disparities of heart disease deaths for U.S. men aged 35 years and older from 1991 through 1995. Researchers found that African American men are 26 percent more likely than white men, and almost twice as likely as Hispanic men to die of heart disease.

Men and Heart Disease is the companion to "Women and Heart Disease: An Atlas of Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Mortality" released in February 2000. The atlas includes more than 200 national and state maps showing geographic patterns in heart disease death rates. Maps of local economic resources and availability of medical care provide information on the underlying community characteristics that can influence the opportunity men have to live heart-healthy lives.

"Men and Heart Disease" estimates that the overall heart death rates among U.S. men were 675 per 100,000 from 1991 through 1995. Heart disease death rates for states ranged from 482 to 878 per 100,000.

"The highest rates in death from heart disease for men are found in the regions of this country with the poorest economies and few health care resources, particularly in underdeveloped rural areas," said Elizabeth Barnett, Ph.D., director of the atlas. "High risks of heart disease are also concentrated in groups of men who have historically been socially disadvantaged, often as a result of racism and other forms of discrimination."

According to the atlas report, the national death rate from heart disease in African American men was 841 deaths per 100,000 population, followed by white men with 666 deaths per 100,000, American Indian and Alaska Native men — 465 per 100,000, and Asian and Pacific Islander men — 372 per 100,000. The death rate for Hispanic men of all races was 432 per 100,000.

"This report shows that geography may determine the quality of cardiovascular health care available for men," said American Heart Association President Rose Marie Robertson, M.D. "Many rural areas lack hospital coronary care units and cardiac rehabilitation units, both of which have been shown to reduce the likelihood of death among people who have suffered heart attacks."

Copies of men and heart disease are available at no cost by writing: the National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Division of Adult and Community Health, 4770 Buford Highway, N.E., Mail Stop K-47, Atlanta, Ga. 30341–3724 or by calling 1 (888) 232–2306.

Additional information about "Men and Heart Disease," including an online version of the document, can be downloaded by visiting West Virginia University's www.oseahr.hsc.wvu.edu. and the CDC'c http://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/cvd/ web sites.

Network gives disabled access to news

OKLAHOMA CITY — The National Newsline Network brings newspapers over the telephone to Oklahomans who are unable to read standard print due to blindness, visual impairment, a learning disability, or the physical inability to hold or turn the pages of printed material.

The service reads newspapers in synthesized speech. Using the keypad on a touch-tone phone, a person can speed up the reading pace, skip articles and sections, or reread articles.

The national Newsline was created by the National Federation of the blind and is funded in Oklahoma by the Division of Visual Services in the Department of Rehabilitation Services. The service came online in Oklahoma in 1997. It is available 24 hours a day and is free to eligible individuals.

"Each morning, computers at the National Centers for the Blind in Baltimore download text from computers at the newspapers. That information is put into the appropriate electronic format and sent by modem to many local service centers where readers can access it at any time," said Visual Services Administrator Ray Hopkins.

Newspapers currently available on Oklahoma's Newsline are the Daily Oklahoma and Tulsa World, plus the Washington Post, New York Times and USA Today.

Registration forms for Newsline can be obtained from the Oklahoma Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped or from DRS field offices located throughout the state. Applicants must qualify for library services based on an inability to use standard print.

"Many Oklahomans who are blind are familiar with Library services, however, people with other disabilities that make it difficult to read print may not realize that they too can receive both library service and Newsline," explained Hopkins, whose division includes the library.

Services provided by the library include recorded books for adults and children and loan of videos with narrated description. Recorded and brailled textbooks are also provided on a limited basis.

For more information about Newsline, contact the Oklahoma Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped at: (405)521-3514 in Oklahoma City; or (800) 523-0288 toll-free statewide.

Council

continued from page 3

emony and appropriating funds for the Tulsa Creek Indian Community to sponsor the annual Council Oak Tree Ceremony and dinner;

• approved (20-0-0) NCA 01-112, providing a supplemental appropriation to the Hanna Indian Community Center for the delivery of water;

• approved (20-0-0) NCA 01-113, appropriating funds for the establishment of a post graduate program;

• approved (20-0-0) NCA 01-114, authorizing a special appropriation to Shelly Franz for expenses to attend the Pre-Teen America Scholarship and Recognition Program;

• approved (17-3-0) NCA 01-115, amending NCA 99-20 (The election code) article V, § 5-102 candidates for elective office to be codified in Title 19 of the Code of Laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation; and

• approved (18-1-0) NCA 01-118, amending NCA 99-20 relating to terms of office to be codified in Title 19 of the Code of Laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

In items for consideration the Council:

• approved (16-0-0) TR 01-25, the maintenance of the privately owned homes program policy and procedures of the housing authority of the Creek Nation of Oklahoma Inc.;

• approved (16-1-0) NCA 01-116, authorizing a special appropriation for the Henryetta Phillies girls softball team;

• approved (16-0-1) NCA 01-120, authorizing a special appropriation to a tribal citizen representing the State of Oklahoma in the 2001 Junior Olympics in Hampton, Va.; and

• approved (15-2-0) NCA 01-121, creating security in gaming operations authority board and removing security from the lighthorse administration.

The Muscogee Nation News

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Government accused again for breech of trust

by Brian Stockes
Indian County Today

WASHINGTON — Just days after Interior Secretary Gale Norton issued new directives for management of tribal trust funds, a court appointed official in the on-going case of Cobell vs. Norton accuses the federal government of failing in its plan to resolve the trust funds problem and intentionally misleading the court and American Indian beneficiaries.

In a report made public by the judge in the case, federal monitor Joseph Kieffer III is highly critical of Secretary Norton and former Secretary Bruce Babbitt. Kieffer says the sampling plan originally proposed under Babbitt to account for missing information was doomed from the beginning, but was still endorsed by Secretary Norton despite what he characterized as "little or no research" on whether the plan complied with the court's orders in the case.

Kieffer said that after a year and a half of promises that the statistical sampling project was progressing "the

please see **BREECH**..., page 3

Future radio broadcasters?

photos by Gerald Wofford

Okmulgee Indian Community Summer Youth participants interview 14 year old Glenpool citizen Billy Harjo, a People to People Sports Ambassador, far left, for the Muscogee Nation Tribal Radio Program. Left to right — Shelby Powell, Melissa Beaver, and Dwayne Bradford served as guest interviewers during the July 18th program. Pictured in the inset photograph, left to right, are: Billy Harjo; Powell; M. Beaver; Bradford; Danielle Beaver and Anthony Beaver. Among OIC youth serving as guest newscasters were: Meredith Lyda and Taylor James, pictured in back.

Muscogee People

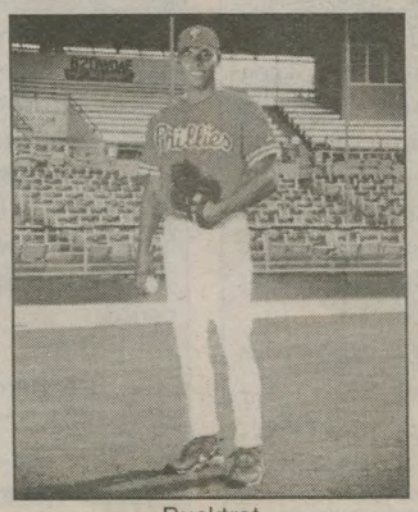
Claremore tribal citizen attempts to make it in the world of Major League Baseball

by Gerald Wofford

One year after being selected by the Phillies in the third round of the 2000 Major League Baseball draft, Muscogee citizen Keith Bucktrot is attempting to make his name known in the Major League Baseball World.

Bucktrot, 20, a native of Claremore, pitches for the Class A Lakewood BlueClaws. The BlueClaws are a farm team of the Philadelphia Phillies located in Lakewood, N.J.

He had considered attending the University of Arkansas on a baseball scholarship, but the Phillies high consideration of him was too good to pass up. Like any young recruit of a Major League Baseball franchise, one must pay his dues in order to be considered "good enough" to move up to the next level. The move from Class A to Class Double A is then followed by a move to Class Triple A then finally the last stop, the major leagues.



Bucktrot

So far, Bucktrot is off to a good start this year, his current record stands at three wins and two losses with an earned run average (ERA) of 4.78.

On April 13, with the Phillies Gen-

please **BUCKTROT**..., page 3

National Council filing and election dates upcoming

OKMULGEE — The primary and general election dates for the 12th session of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council will be held Sept. 22 and Nov. 3, respectively.

Candidate filing times and dates for National Council seats are from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Aug. 20 through 22.

To be eligible to run for office, individuals must:

- be at least one-fourth degree enrolled Muscogee (Creek) Nation tribal members;
- be a registered tribal voter;
- reside in the district in which she/he is filing for one calendar year;
- have no record of a felony within the last 10 years.

When filing, candidate must submit: a filing fee of $150 (cashier's check or money order); tribal enrollment card; and proof of residence via a utility bill in the name of the candidate.

please see **DATES**..., page 3

Letters to the editor

Okmulgee County man considering bid for office

Editor:

Filing for National Council seats will soon be forthcoming. Since I am now a resident of Okmulgee County, I will be considering filing for a Council seat in the Okmulgee District. I have learned that I do have considerable support.

Charlie Coker, Preston

Elderly housing manager responds to comments

Editor:

In answer to the comments Ms. Esther Harley Grona made to the Dewar Indian Community regarding the removal of people from the Creek Nation Elderly Housing complex to a nursing home — no member of the staff of Creek Nation Elderly Housing has the authority to remove anyone to be placed in a nursing home.

The U.S. Housing and Urban Development regulations provide that anyone requiring the assistance of a live-in attendant may have one. Upon visiting with Ms. Grona, it was further learned that the tenant she was making references to had been a longtime tenant of elderly housing. She is now 92 and, for the past two years, has had two very devoted daughters that have maintained 24 hour care of her. Nobody could have asked them to do better. The decision for her to be placed in skilled nursing care was the decision of her doctor and family. The office of Creek Nation Elderly Housing was informed after the decision was made, not before.

As far as the services that Creek Nation Elderly Housing is set up to provide, the staff goes above and beyond what are their actual duties. There is not a shirker in the bunch and I am proud of every one of them.

Barbara K. Goodman, Okmulgee

Editor's note: Barbara K. Goodman, project manager for Creek Nation Elderly Housing, is responding to Esther Harley Grona's Mvskoke Elder Council report which was printed in the July 2001 issue of *The Muscogee Nation News*.

Support of Memorial Day ceremony appreciated

Editor:

We would like to thank all individuals that assisted and participated in the Muscogee Nation Memorial Day observance.

Among those that we would like to thank are: Koweta Indian Community and its veteran Charles McHenry for the placing of the wreath at the podium; Sapulpa Indian Community and your veterans Phillip Coon and Tom Tiger; Dewar Indian Community and your veteran Smiley Barnett; Okmulgee Indian Community and Mary Anne Kane for the contributing food for the event; and Col. Ernest Childers for sharing his many experiences; Ken Childers and the Moore family for participating in the observance; and Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver.

We had a wonderful time — thank you all.

Esther Harley Grona, Okmulgee
Robert "Bill" Jones, Okmulgee

Editor's note: Grona is the Mvskoke Elder Council Chairperson and Jones is a community service worker for veterans.

Dustin boy appreciates support to attend summit

Editor:

I would like to take to say *mvto* to everyone who supported me at various fund-raiser benefits so that I could attend the National Summit of Young Technology Leaders.

A big thank you is extended to the Muscogee (Creek) National Council for their monetary contribution which enabling me to attend this youth summit held in Austin, Texas.

I would also like to thank: Michael, Melinda, and Coleman Tiger; Lillie Yargee; and Cheryl Gouge for providing transportation to and from the conference meeting.

Billy Hill, Dustin

Legal Notices

Published in *The Muscogee Nation News*, Volume 30, Issue 8, August 2001

Case No. JV-99-11
In the matter of : C.H. and D.H., minor creek children

Notice of hearing

To: Brenda Harjo, mother of C.H. and D.H.
Terry G. Harjo, father of C.H. and D.H.

You are hereby given notice of a hearing on the above-styled and numbered case for the purpose of termination of your paternal rights in the District Courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Tribal Complex at Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the 4th day of September, 2001 at 1:30 p.m.

You are hereby informed that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the children remain wards of the Court and custody be continued in the Children and Family Services Administration for continued foster placement or possible pre-adoptive placement.

You are further informed that you have the right to be represented by legal counsel at this hearing.

I have hereunto set my hand this 18th day of July, 2001.
/s/ Patrick Moore, District Court Judge

Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Children and Family Services Administration
P.O. Box 580
Okmulgee, Oklahoma 74447
(918) 756-2112

The July District Court filings were not available at press time. The filings will be published in the September issue of *The Muscogee Nation News*.

Second opinion

by Second Chief A.D. Ellis

Summer has come to Oklahoma and we are now experiencing typical 100 plus degrees of heat. Everyone should be very alert and helpful in watching our elders who have no air conditioning. The very young and very old are a priority in this life-threatening heat.

I receive many calls each day for assistance with air conditioners and fans. Each complaint is turned over to the proper department for action. If time permits, I take care of it myself. For those of you that call and get no results quickly, you have to understand that the tribe is so much larger than any one division. It's a huge operation with over 1,800 employees Nationwide.

At the July Council meeting a bill was passed appropriating approximately $50,000 to buy emergency air conditioners for the elderly.

Also in July, the tribe received a $75,000 block grant from U.S. Housing and Urban Development. This will be used to rebuild and remodel the tribe's Sapulpa Health Center.

Last week the concrete was poured for the Muskogee Travel Plaza. This travel plaza project is to be completed during late fall or early winter. The contract was approved by the National Council in July, so construction on the new housing office should begin soon. Also **Jack Chaney**, federal roads construction engineer, informed us that the resurfacing of Bixby Road should begin very soon. The Muscogee Nation has assisted on many county road projects throughout our Nation. Our driveways division is still attempting to finish repairs that occurred during last winter's ice storm. Funding from the Federal Emergency Management Administration has helped supply the huge amount of gravel and extra help needed.

Election time is nearing and this month we should know who all the candidates are. Everyone should register to vote and get to know the people who are running for office. They will be making decisions that will affect all of us. Only you citizens who vote can decide who will be our next Council Representatives. Absentee voters always make up a large section of voters. In some cases a race is decided by the absentee votes. It's your choice.

Quote of the month: *It takes so little to make a child happy that it is a pity in a world full of sunshine that there should be any empty hands or lonely hearts.*

Mvto.

The Muscogee Nation News

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Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of every month.** ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

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Muscogee National Council overview

OKMULGEE — The following consists of actions of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council conducted at its July 28 quarterly session.

Speaker **Wilbur Gouge**, McIntosh District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

In Council business it:

• approved (14-7-0) Tribal Resolution 01-26, authorizing executive of an agreement, part 2, by the principal chief between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and SGS, L.L.C.;

• approved (17-4-0) TR 01-28, transferring employees from the Lighthorse security division to the gaming operations authority board;

• approved unanimously (21-0-0) TR 01-30, approving the selection of contractors and authorizing the housing authority to execute contracts for rehabilitation repair work;

• approved unanimously (21-0-0) TR 01-31, approving the selection of contractors and authorizing the housing authority to execute contracts for demolition and/or debris removal;

• approved (16-5-0) TR 01-32, authorizing the principal chief to execute a letter of intent with Sundown Capital and Development, LLC, related to the development of the Mackey Sandbar site located at 81st and Riverside in Tulsa County;

• approved (20-1-0) TR 01-33, approving modification of a special services attorney contract between **Geoffrey Standing Bear** and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

Geoffrey Standing Bear is an attorney at law residing in Pawhuska;

• approved (12-9-0) National Council Act 01-51, repealing NCA 01-136 and reestablishing the academic/extra curricular program under the human development committee of the National Council;

• tabled unanimously (22-0-0) NCA 01-59, appropriating funds to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Emergency Improvement Program;

• tabled (18-4-0) NCA 01-67, appropriating $133,650 to the Mvskoke Elder Council for the establishment of a service center in Okmulgee;

• approved unanimously (22-0-0) NCA 01-99, authorizing a special appropriation for Tukvpvtce Methodist church;

• approved (21-1-0) NCA 01-119, authorizing the principal chief to donate equipment that is no longer operational from the farm to Hanna Indian community center for community use;

• tabled (18-4-0) NCA 01-123, establishing a nursing home facility task force;

• approved (19-0-0) NCA 01-124, authorizing a special appropriation for the Mid America Chapter of Paralyzed Veterans of America;

• tabled (18-4-0) NCA 01-125, authorizing a special appropriation for the Checotah Indian community;

• approved (21-1-0) NCA 01-127, amending sections 102, 103, 104, and 105 of NCA 01–11, "an ordinance of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Authorizing an appropriation for the Wetumka Indian community to acquire and remodel a building on Highway 9 and to repeal NCA 99–44;"

• failed to approve (9-10-0) NCA 01-128, authorizing a special appropriation for the services provided by Haley Oil Company;

• tabled (18-4-0) NCA 01-129, authorizing a special appropriation for the purchase of a big screen television for the elderly residents at Boyce Manor Nursing Home;

• approved unanimously (21-0-0) NCA 01-130, authorizing a special appropriation to Muscogee Indian Community for parking lot repairs;

• approved unanimously (21-0-0) NCA 01-131, authorizing a special appropriation for the Muscogee- Seminole-Wichita Baptist Association;

• approved (17-3-0) NCA 01-132, appropriating and authorizing the expenditure of funds for Duck Creek Indian Community for economic development gaming and renovation project;

• approved (19-1-0) NCA 01-135, amending certain sections of the citizenship code, NCA 81-06, as amended by NCA 85-45, NCA 81-77, and repealing other sections;

• approved (19-0-0) NCA 01-136, amending certain tax laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and enacting new tax laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation in title 36 of the Code of Laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

• approved (19-0-0) NCA 01-139, amending section 3-102, section four and section five of NCA 01-113, a law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation appropriating funds for the establishment of a post graduate program;

• approved (18-2-0) NCA 01-140, amending NCA 89-135 (an ordinance of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation establishing a Creek Nation permanent fund from tribally owned and managed gaming operations) and amending NCA 95-105 (an ordinance authorizing the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Travel Plaza Establishment and Financing Act of 1995);

• approved (19-1-0) NCA 01-142, approving an attorney contract between **Geoffrey M. Standing Bear**, P.C., attorney at law, and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation for the next fiscal year;

• approved (19-1-0) NCA 01-143, appropriating funding for an attorney contract with Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer, and Feld law firm;

• approved (19-1-0) NCA 01-145, authorizing the gaming operations authority board to modify the agreement with Wilbanks & Associates, Inc., for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tulsa Bingo Hall; and

• approved unanimously (20-0-0) NCA 01-146, authorizing a special appropriation to purchase air condition units for the elders of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

In items for consideration the Council:

• approved (19-0-0) NCA 01-126, repealing NCA 92-119, pertaining to juvenile matters, and enacting a new children's code.

Breech

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status of the actual accounting, with few exceptions, was, for lack of a better term, at ground zero."

Kieffer was appointed by the court to monitor the government's progress and file written reports of his findings over the next year. In the judge's order it was noted that both the plaintiffs and the government had consented to the appointment. Kieffer's appointment followed the public disclosure in February of a memo by senior BIA official Dom Nessi saying that trust reform efforts are "imploding." The contents of the memo contradicted the reports of progress issued by Interior and may have provoked the court.

In December 1999, Judge Lamberth ruled that the American Indian plaintiffs had a judicially enforceable right to an accounting of their money and that the secretaries of Interior and Treasury were in breach of their trust responsibilities to American Indian account beneficiaries. Judge Lamberth kept jurisdiction over trust reform efforts for five years and ordered Interior officials to file quarterly reports on their progress.

Instead of complying with the court's order, Kieffer said Babbitt took shortcuts and only chose a statistical sampling of the accounts and not a full accounting. Kieffer also accuses Interior of misleading the court and American Indian beneficiaries. Kieffer said that officials within Interior came up with the sampling plan before they scheduled a series of meetings to seek the views of American Indian beneficiaries on how to resolve the issue. Kieffer said that the meetings were a sham and were held only to make it appear that work was progressing.

"The hard truth is that the Federal Register notice was never meant to be a means for determining how to conduct the accounting based on the IIM account holders' opinions," Kieffer said. "One thousand Indians traveled countless miles to register their opinions in the consultative or information-gathering process commenced by the Federal Register notice for no reason."

Lawyers for the American Indian plaintiffs in the case say that they are seeking a contempt order for Babbitt and Norton following Kieffer's revelations.

"This report makes the case for a contempt order," said Keith Harper, one of the plaintiffs' attorneys. "You can't just do something like that when Indian people have spent their hard earned money getting to these meetings."

Interior declined to comment on the report, however, Secretary Norton just issued two secretarial orders aimed at resolving some of the on-going problems with American Indian trust reform. One order provides additional authority to the Special Trustee for American Indians, while the other creates a new "Office of Historical Accounting."

Judge Lamberth has said he would consider personal fines and confinement for government officials if they were found in contempt again.

Bucktrot

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eral Manager Ed Wade looking on, Bucktrot pitched a seven inning no-hitter defeating the Hickory Crawdads, another Phillies farm team, 11-1.

Bucktrot's recent start on July 22 had him pitching against the Greensboro Bats, a farm team of the New York Yankees. For six innings, Bucktrot threw a no-hitter as Lakewood eventually pounded out 10 hits in a 4-2 victory.

In his first season last year, Bucktrot started out in the position of relief pitcher. Since then, Bucktrot's talents have been used strictly as a starting pitcher. On April 28 of this year, Bucktrot came within two outs of another possible no-hitter season, but finished with a 7-3 win over the Charleston, West Virginia Blue Jays.

Bucktrot's stepmother, Patsy, is especially proud of him. "He is having a good time being in professional baseball and just loves it. I'm real proud of him because he is a role for

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Dates

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All enrolled Muscogee Nation tribal members, ages 18 and older, are eligible to vote, but must have valid registration in order to do so. The voter registration deadline is Sept. 12. The absentee ballot request deadline is Aug. 29.

Election board staff requests that information be updated regarding: changes of address (address changes related to 911 included); name changes; and informing the office of deaths of registered voters.

For more information, call election board office staff at (918) 756-8700, extensions 294 or 349

Eufaula Dormitory begins enrollment

EUFAULA — Creek Nation Eufaula Dormitory is accepting applications for enrollment for the 2001-2002 school term.

Eufaula Dormitory is a Bureau of Indian Affairs funded peripheral dormitory for boys and girls in first through 12th grades. Enrollment will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Aug. 14, with classes to begin on Aug. 15 at Eufaula Public Schools.

New students are required to have: a Certificate Degree of Indian Blood Card; Social Security Card; an up to date immunization record; a birth certificate; physical; report cards and/or transcript from the previous school year.

Eufaula Dormitory offers a structured environment with supplementary services such as tutoring, behavioral and academic counseling, and a library and computer-learning resource center.

The dormitory is located at 716 Swadley Drive. For more information, call (800) 896-3181.

Talent search seeks Native performers and writers

ONEIDA, N.Y. — Qualifying events for Native American actors, comedians, and writers are being held by NBC and the Oneida Indian through Four Directions Talent Search.

Qualifying events will be held at: Foxwoods Resort Casino, Ledyard Conn., on Aug. 24; The Comedy Works, Denver, Colo., on Sept. 11; Yuks Yuks Comedy Club, Toronto, Canada, on Sept. 24; The Comedy Underground, Seattle, Wash., on Oct. 9; and The Comedy Corner, West Palm Beach Fla., on Oct. 22. Semifinals will be held at Turning Stone Casino Resort, Verona, N.Y., on Nov. 4 and 5. Finals will be held at PSNBC Studios, New York, N.Y., on Nov. 7.

For details and applications, call the Oneida Indian Nation Communications Department at (315) 361-6512 or see www.fourdirectionstalent.com.

Vocational rehabilitation opens Okmulgee office

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee Nation Vocational Rehabilitation Service Program has opened an office at the Workforce Oklahoma Okmulgee center located on the Oklahoma State University-Okmulgee campus, 1801 E. 4th, room 4.

The main office is still located at 213 N. 2nd St. in Okemah. The vocational rehabilitation service program is designed to assist eligible American Indians with disabilities in becoming employed.

To contact the Okmulgee office, call (918) 758-1920 or write P.O. Box 2338, Okmulgee, OK 74447. To contact the Okemah office, call (918) 623–1197 or (888) 367-2332, toll free.

Festival Fast Pitch results

Women's tournament

- First place — Oklahoma Tribes; second place — Sqa-sdi-yu; third place — Original Players; fourth place — Cherokee Stars
- Most valuable player: Angel Winston, Oklahoma Tribes
- All Stars: Deana Mouse, Cherokee Stars; Tessie Jimboy, Original Players; Rickie Walker, Original Players; Amanda Johnson, Sqa-sdi-yu; Jamie Teehee, Sqa-sdi-yu; Jana Smith, Sqa-sdi-yu; Nikie Johnson, Oklahoma Tribes; Mitzi Groves, Oklahoma Tribes; and Serena Foreman, Oklahoma Tribes

Men's tournament

- First place — Silverbacks; second place — Tahlequah Starters; third place — Little Axe; fourth place — Hectorville Reds
- Most valuable player: Jim McClung, Silverbacks
- All Stars: Mark Marshall, Hectorville Reds; Pat Johnson, Little Axe; Bob Blanchard, Little Axe; Myron Bolin, Tahlequah Starters; Jason Helsley, Tahlequah Starters; Nolan Ross, Tahlequah Starters; Jimpsey Fish, Silverbacks; Robbie Harry, Silverbacks; and Jim Pahcoddy, Silverbacks

July an educational month for Creek Nation 4-H members

OKMULGEE — July was an educational month for members of the Creek Nation 4-H Program from Hughes, McIntosh, and Okfuskee counties.

In early July, Katrina Tiger, Natasha Tiger, and Jorena Hicks, members of Okfuskee County Este-Cate 4-H Club, participated in a leadership development conference that was held at Oklahoma State University in Stillwater. Attendees made edible bugs in an entomology workshop, learned how to make clay through a plant and soil sciences class, created copper impressions, and toured the campus.

submitted photo

Hughes County Young Este-Cates 4-H Club members Jessica Harjo, Kesha Billy, and Sheena Billy find the lamb carcasses hanging in the OSU Meat Lab malodorous.

The Hughes County Young Este-Cates held their monthly 4-H Club meeting on July 11. Those in attendance were: Shelly Starr; Kesha Billy; Sheena Billy; Victor Billy; Byron Hicks; Jessica Harjo; and Alice Harjo. The group discussed future projects and activities and made "dirt babies" as part of a classroom presentation. K. Billy, S. Billy, and J. Harjo attended OSU Animal Science Field Days on July 18 and 19. The girls competed in the swine judging contest and made new friends at both the contest and during a tour of the OSU Equine Facilities.

Dakota Beebe, Stidham 4-H, and his father, Mike, also attended OSU Animal Science Field Days. They toured the OSU Dairy Barn, in addition to competing with approximately 1,500 other individuals from across the state in the beef field day.

The Creek Nation 4-H Swine Program is currently in development. The goal of this project is to teach youth the proper care, nutrition, maintenance, and responsibilities of animal ownership while simultaneously preparing the animals and their owners for spring livestock show competition. Funds are available to a selected number of qualifying youth to assist with the cost of purchasing and feeding the animal.

The Youth in Action Congress will be held in October at the Fin and Feather Resort near Tahlequah. Club members, ages 13 and older, who turn in a one page story about their "dirt baby" to the club leader by Sept. 15 are eligible to attend.

For more information about the swine program or the Creek Nation 4-H Program, contact the Extension Educator Jamie Littlefield at (918) 756-8700, ext. 610 or toll free at (800) 482-1979. Her office is located in the human development building on the tribal capital complex.

Enrollment for the Creek Nation 4-H program is open to youth ranging in age from 5 to 19 who reside within the boundaries of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Eldercare Locator helps elders to access services

WASHINGTON — The Administration on Aging (AoA) has established a pilot program to help American Indian elders and their families access culturally appropriate services.

The Eldercare Locator American Indian Outreach Initiative expands AoA's successful Eldercare Locator directory assistance service to pilot communities in Oklahoma and 14 counties in Northern California.

Established in 1991 as a public service of the AoA, the toll free Eldercare Locator puts callers in touch with state and local resources such as caregiving nutrition programs, home care, transportation, housing, legal, and other services that help older adults remain independent in their own homes.

The National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (N4A) administers the Eldercare Locator with oversight and funding from AoA, in cooperation with the National Association of State Units on Aging.

Through the American Indian Outreach Initiative, family and friends seeking resources for American Indian elders in the pilot communities will be able to call the toll-free Eldercare Locator and then will be transferred automatically to the pilot sites for referrals to local, culturally appropriate services, regardless of tribal affiliations.

Two tribal organizations, the Blue Lake Rancheria Tribe in California and the Oklahoma Indian Council on Aging — through the Chickasaw Nation — are coordinating with the Eldercare Locator to provide the specialized service to help American Indian elders.

The national toll free Eldercare Locator, (800) 677-1116, is available Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., Eastern time.

Conservation Service conserving resources

OKMULGEE — The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), the conservation agency for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and works to conserve natural resources on private and tribal lands.

The conservation service provides the following services: natural resource assessment; conservation planning assistance; technical assistance for conservation practices; and cost share programs for conservation work

For more information, contact the local USDA Service Center, Muscogee Nation Human Development Building, on the tribal capital complex or call (918) 756-8700, ext. 617. Information is also available at http://www.nrcs.usda.gov.

The USDA prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and martial status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's Target Center at (202) 720–2600. The USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326 W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue SW, Washington DC 20250–9410; or call (202) 720–5964.

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Muskogee area BIA Building negotiations

Above: Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver, front row, right, signs a letter or intent to negotiate with the BIA for the construction of a building to be leased to the BIA's Muskogee area office. Also pictured, left of Beaver, is Deborah J. Maddox, BIA Director of Administration, and back row: Mike Smith, Acting Regional Director of Eastern Oklahoma Regional Office of BIA; Ben Chaney, tribal economic development coordinator; and Jimmy Gibson, Okmulgee agency BIA superintendent.

Tribal Lighthorsemen form FOP

Below: The following are winners of the tribe's Tobacco Health Education Committee art contest: left to right, division A, first row — first place, Kelsey Proctor; second place, Tyler Mitchell; third place, Damon Mouss; fouth place, BreOnna Gonseth; division B, second row — first, Leta Chardel; second, Andrea Caywood; third, Lindsey Heath; division C, third row — first, Toni Grayson; third, Tyler Landon; fourth, Jonathan McNac.

"Tobacco is Sacred, Smoking is not" contest

Left: Jerry Campbell, Fraternal Order of Police state treasurer, far left, swears in tribal lighthorsemen: Sam Remis Jr. as secretary/treasurer; Vince Fisher as state trustee; and Daniel Checotah as vice president of the newly-formed Muscogee Lighthorse FOP Lodge #167.

photos by Gerald Wofford and Denise Jacobs

Right: Barbara Berryhill, Wetumka Indian Community, Rebecca Lindsey and Edith Harjo, both from Cromwell Indian Community attended a tribal community development workshop held in late July.

SWAT adult facilitators training

Above: Joe Jackson, Tulsa City County Health Department, conducted a workshop for adults interested in training to become adult facilitators for the youth-led organization, Students Working Against Tobacco (SWAT) in July. Pictured with Jackson is Cynthia Coachman, Muscogee Nation Tobacco Health Education Coordinator.

Tribal community development workshop

Notices

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Lighthorse officers establish FOP

OKMULGEE — On July 26, officers of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Lighthorse Administration were installed as Fraternal Order of Police lodge members and officers by representatives from the state and national offices of the FOP.

The installation marks the first formation of a tribal law enforcement FOP lodge in Oklahoma.

The elected lodge officers of the Lighthorse FOP Lodge #167 that will serve the first term of office are: Ben Watashe, president; Daniel Checotah, vice president; Sam Remis Jr., secretary/treasurer; Vince Fisher, state trustee; Tiffany Been, sergeant at arms; and Clifford Shatswell Jr., alternate sergeant at arms.

Representatives that assisted in installing and swearing-in officers: Jerry Campbell, Oklahoma State FOP Secretary; Jean Vanlandingham, Oklahoma State FOP Treasurer; and Joe Perkins, national trustee.

The Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) is the largest law enforcement organization in the U.S. with over 290,000 members in over 2,100 lodges in 49 states. Founded in 1915 in Pittsburg, Penn., the FOP represents professional, full time law enforcement officers from all ranks and all levels of government.

The Oklahoma State Lodge of the Fraternal Order of Police was chartered on Feb. 20, 1951. Presently there are over 5,100 members and 77 lodges in Oklahoma. The state lodge is committed to promoting and fostering the enforcement of law and order, improving the individual proficiency of members in the performance of their duties, encouraging social, charitable, and educational activities among law enforcement officers and cultivating a spirit of fraternalism and mutual respect among members and the citizens served.

Bucktrot

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other Native American youth."

Bucktrot, who stands at 6'3", is the prototypical pitcher of today — a tall strong athlete with a commanding arm. "Bucktrot spotted his ball well," said Blueclaws manager Greg Legg after a recent outing. In his performances so far this season, Bucktrot has controlled his fast ball very well, adapting to each game and how the batters are reacting. "Just stick with what works," he says confidently.

Bucktrot, a full-blood Muscogee, is the son of Anna Harjo of Bixby and Alvin Bucktrot of Claremore. His paternal grandparents are Alvin Bucktrot Sr. of Bristow and Liza Harjo of Konawa. His maternal grandparents are Christine Harjo and the late Ben Harjo, Henryetta. Bucktrot belongs to the Tiger Clan and Hickory Ground Tribal Town.

Editor's note: To check out Keith Bucktrot's statistics or find out more about the Lakewood BlueClaws, see: www.lakewoodblueclaws.com.

Mvskoke Elder Council report

by Esther Grona, Mvskoke Elder Council Chair

The July Garage sale was held in Eufaula. Our host was Dugan and Christine McIntosh and Henryetta Marshall and the Eufaula Indian Community. We discussed many problems at the community. They need a new nutrition center with a room for activities. Much like the Bristow Indian Community, the one arm bandits took over the nutrition site — but now Bristow is going to get a new nutrition site. We made recommendations to Eufaula in regard to getting things started for a new nutrition site — so we will see that it gets done. We also discussed the lack of transportation for Holdenville Indian Community. We were told the money was made available for a new van, but no one knows where the money is.

My personal commitment is to get a nursing home and better health and dental care for our elderly from the health service. Our legislation requesting $134,000 to set up our own office and to have a health clinic for the elderly was tabled in the quarterly session of the National Council. They have come up with a bill to have a senior citizen advisory person and then they want to cut our bill off. We tried that once and it did not work as the advisory person will not fight for elderly. As long as he gets a check from Creek Nation his hands will be tied. We want our own department, with our own ways to help our elderly.

Be advised, if your Council representative has not written a bill to support your needs do not vote him or her in again.

Education

Citizen ends career

EUGENE, Ore. — Colorado State senior Bryan Berryhill ended his collegiate track career after winning the 1500 meters at the National Collegiate Athletic Association Championship. Berryhill set the school record after running a 3:37.05.

Berryhill entered the NCAA Championship with the fastest time in the nation and ran the fastest time. He lowered his personal best by .18 of a second to defeat Stanford's Gabe Jennings, who ran a 3:37.56. David Kimani — of Alabama — who entered the championship with the second fastest time in Division I, finished third with a time of 3:38.74.

Berryhill leaves Colorado State holding five individual records and part of a relay record (indoor 800 meters, mile, outdoor 800 meters, mile, 1500 meters and part of the indoor distance medley relay team). He also ends his career as a 10 time All-American.

Citizen receives bachelor's degree

NORMAN — Lynnetta J. Record Eyachabbe graduated from the University of Oklahoma with a bachelor of science degree in business administration, with a major in management information systems, on May 11.

She participated in: the American Indian Student Association; American Indian Student Engineering Society; Native American Business Society; and intramural flag football and softball.

She is the daughter of Bill and Liz Record of Coweta.

Her grandparents are: the late Jensie L. Brown Record of Tulsa; the late Alfred Record, Sapulpa; and the late Austin and Bessie Bell, Okmulgee.

Her great-grandparents are: the late Etta S. Haikey Bangs, Tulsa; the late Billy Brown; the late William and Jeanetta Pickett Record, Sapulpa; the late Jasper and Ruth Anderson Bell; and late Martha Henneha, Okemah.

She currently resides in Norman with her husband, Jason, and son, Aaron.

Eyachabbe has accepted a position at Veridian Engineering Division at Tinker Air Force Base as a software design engineer.

Boy travels to Australia to compete in bowling

GLENPOOL — Glenpool youth Billy Harjo participated in the People to People Sports Ambassadors Program during the first two weeks of August.

Harjo

He was selected to compete in the program's bowling competition which was held in Sydney, Australia. Harjo also visited New Zealand during his travels. The People to People Sports Ambassadors Program was established in 1956 by President Dwight D. Eisenhower with the intent to bring nations together. The programs objectives include: instilling leadership and teamwork skills; increasing cultural understanding while promoting new friendships; and providing athletes with the opportunity for international competition.

A bowler since age nine, Harjo was selected to participate in the program last winter.

Harjo, age 14, will be in the eighth grade at Glenpool Middle School and enjoys playing football and basketball also. He is a member of Kialegee Tribal Town and is the son Pam Harjo of Glenpool and the grandson of Leonard and Augustine Harjo of Okemah.

Oklahoma alumni make change in reunion plans

TULSA — The 2001 Haskell Alumni Association of Oklahoma Annual Reunion will be held Sept. 14 through 16 at Adam's Mark Hotel.

The reunion golf scramble, however, will be held on Aug. 25, rather than the reunion weekend. The scramble will be held at the Cherry Springs Golf Course, south of Tahlequah. The entry fee of $50 includes the green fee, cart, and two mulligans per person. The shotgun start will begin at 8 a.m. For more information, call Steve Shell at (918) 663-0544 or e-mail shell442@prodigy.net.

Haskell class of 61 holding 40th reunion

LAWRENCE, Kan. — Haskell Institute graduates of 1961 are holding their 40th class reunion in conjunction with homecoming weekend Oct. 12 through 14.

Instant rivalry between "Warriors" and "Indians" assumed with resurrection of Bacone College's football program

by Eddie Sacks, Bacone College Public Information

MUSKOGEE — In a game that one Lawrence, Kan. sports writer referred to as "...one old Indian boarding school against another," the newly resurrected Bacone College Warrior Football Team will take on the Haskell Indian Nations University Indians in the opening game of the fall 2001 season.

With the kickoff scheduled for 7 p.m., Aug. 25 at Muskogee's Indian Bowl Stadium, in the mist of the Cherokee National Holiday, an instant rivalry is anticipated between these two traditional Indian school.

The coming rivalry was inevitable for Bacone's head coach David Ross. "I knew the minute I took the job that there would be a rivalry," he said. "One of the first questions people asked when I got here was 'will you play Haskell?' With Haskell being an Indian university and Bacone having a rich Indian tradition, plus the fact that there are a lot of Haskell alums in the area, helped establish the rivalry."

In 1952, during Bacone's previous football program, the school brought home the silver Junior Rose Bowl National Championship trophy, but Bacone was forced to drop the football program after the 1957 season due to financial reasons, and a lot of attention has been focused on the resurrection of Bacone's football program. Under the direction of Ross, the Bacone Warriors will take to the field for the first time in 44 years. Regardless of the fact, or maybe because of it, the anticipation has been building ever since the announcement of the schedule leading off with Haskell and optimism runs high for both squads.

Haskell will also see some changes of sorts when the two schools collide in August. Haskell's head coach of the last 14 seasons, Gary Tanner, stepped down due to health reasons and Graham Shnelding, Haskell's 1996 class valedictorian, will be facing Ross' Warriors as the new head coach. Haskell also anticipates the return of All-Conference receiver Sonny Duncan who was put out late last season due to a knee injury, along with All Central State Football League First Team member Michael Murray and seven other players who were named to the league's second team. This is all on top Haskell's recruitment efforts, which have garnered them an additional 35 plus recruits.

Despite the fact this is essentially "a brand new program" that has been erected from the ground up, the Bacone coaching staff is unwavering in its confidence in its young squad and takes a lot of pride in the historic winning tradition of the school. According to John Brazaal, the Warriors defensive back coach, "if we prepare and do the right things, there's no reason we shouldn't be able to compete [against Haskell and] we're prepared and are doing the right things."

Keith Tincknell, the Warriors quarterback coach concurs. "The game against Haskell should be hard fought and if we don't make a lot of mistakes we should have a chance to win," he said.

"Haskell is a good opponent for us," Ross said of "The Indians." They have a comparable football team to us which gives us the opportunity to win the football game. Not to take anything away from Haskell, but they are in the same developmental stages that we are so it should be a good game."

On the question of who he thought will win the game, Ross took a more pragmatic view. "You have got to go with Haskell [to win]," he said. "They played a four-year schedule against four-year teams last year and this is our first exposure to it. Being at home with the home crowd should be beneficial, but the favorite (to win) should be Haskell."

Bacone Football 2001 schedule
7 p.m., Aug. 25: Haskell Indian Univ.
2 p.m., Sept. 1: Southern Nazarene Univ.
7 p.m., Sept. 8: Pittsburg State
7 p.m., Sept. 15: Langston Univ.
1:30 p.m., Sept. 22: Southwestern Okla.
1:30 p.m., Sept. 29: William Penn
7 p.m., Oct. 4: Northeastern State Univ.
noon, Oct.13: SW Assemblies of God Univ.
1 p.m., Oct. 20: Northwestern Oklahoma.
1:30 p.m., Oct. 27: Univ. of Central Okla.
1 p.m., Nov. 3: Lambuth

Haskell Football 2001 schedule
7 p.m., Aug. 25: Bacone College*
1 p.m., Sept. 1: Trinity Bible College
7 p.m., Sept. 8: McPherson College
1 p.m., Sept. 22: Principia College
2 p.m., Sept. 29: Southern Nazarene Univ.
2 p.m., Oct. 6: Langston Univ.*
1 p.m., Oct. 13: Peru State College*
1 p.m., Oct. 20: Dana College
2 p.m., Oct. 27: Lincoln Univ.*
1:30 p.m., Nov. 3: NW Oklahoma State Univ.*
2 p.m., Nov. 10: SW Assemblies of God Univ.*

Bold face: denotes home game
Italicized: denotes homecoming
Asterisk (*): denotes conference game

Both teams would like this rivalry to be an annual event to be played, at Haskell's suggestion, in Muskogee. Muskogee's Indian Bowl Stadium is viewed as the ideal site to stage the rivalry because of its location in the heart of Indian Country — being located on the edges of both the Muscogee (Creek) and Cherokee nations in northeastern Oklahoma's former Indian Territory.

As anticipation mounts concerning the coming clash between the Warriors of Bacone and the Indians of Haskell, Bacone's Ross is happy to see this as the "kickoff of an annual event" and he looks forward for the opportunity of this game "to grow as a rivalry."

Birthdays

Okmulgee boy celebrates with party at arcade

TULSA — Kenneth Alan Berryhill celebrated his 11th birthday on June 9 at Fun House arcade with his aunts, cousins, and friends attending.

Berryhill turned 11 on June 6. He will be in the fifth grade at Eastside Elementary.

He is the son of Greg Berryhill and Sherry Walton, both of Okmulgee.

His paternal grandfather is Alfred Berryhill of Okmulgee and his maternal grandparents are Rosie and Leonard Berryhill of Okmulgee.

Berryhill

Okemah baby turns one

OKEMAH — Brock Hicks celebrated his first birthday at his home with a "Blue's Clues" party theme on July 7.

He is the son of Jeremiah Hicks and Carrie Jacobs, both of Okemah.

His maternal grandparents are Frank Jacobs of Tulsa and Patsy Jacobs of Sells, Ariz.

Paternal grandparents are Jim and Jean Hicks of Henryetta.

His maternal great-grandparents are: Betty Jacobs of Tulsa; the late Sam Jacobs, Henryetta; Joe Rameriz of Florence, Ariz.; and the late Pauline Crawford, Sells, Ariz.

His paternal great-grandparents are: Houston and Eliza Hicks of Henryetta; Sissy Lewis of Hanna; and the late Jonas Artussee, Okmulgee.

Hicks

Broken Arrow girl turns six

BROKEN ARROW — Kaylee Renae Morrison celebrated her sixth birthday on June 16 with a birthday party at Playhouse for Kidz.

In addition to her friends, her great-grandmother, Delilah Morton Page, was in attendance.

She is the granddaughter of Nancy L. Smith of Broken Arrow.

Morrison's great-great grandparents are the late Joshua and Judy Kanard Morton and her great-great-great grandparents are the late Thomas and Eliza Kanard Grayson and Moss Morton.

Morrison

Morrison is the top goal scorer, with 24 goals, within her age division in the Broken Arrow Soccer Club.

Careers

Cookson man earns Soldier of the Year award

TAHLEQUAH — In April Spc. Harvey D. Johnson was named Soldier of the Quarter in a competition within the 264th Corps Support Battalion and received an Army Achievement Medal.

He also competed and won the 1st Corps Support Command Soldier of the Year Competition and received another Army commendation medal in June.

The competitions are based on: expertise in physical fitness; weapons qualifications; day and night navigation; map-reading; common task testing; a written test; and a command sergeant major selection board. The CSB promotion board selected Johnson for a junior leadership course and a primary leadership development course for promotion to E5 Sergeant.

He is assigned to the 1st Corps Support Command, 46th CSG, 264th CSB, and belongs to the 623rd Quartermaster Company "Repair Devils."

"I decided to join the U.S. Army because the Army offered to assist me in paying off my student college loans through its loan repayment program," said Spc. Johnson, "and to keep a family tradition alive." Johnson's father, Thomas, was a paratrooper for the 82nd All-Americans and served in Vietnam.

Johnson, of Cookson, is a 1986 graduate of Tahlequah High School and a 1997 graduate of Northeastern State University. He and his wife, Lisa Wildcat-Johnson, have five children: Micah T. Johnson, 16; Erica A. Wildcat, 9; Micah A. Cochran, 8; Arria B. Wildcat, 6; and Nathan A. Wildcat, 4.

Johnson is full-blood Muscogee/Keetoowah. He is the son of Thomas and Ida Johnson. His grandparents are the late Charley and Judy Johnson, Henryetta, and the late Pete and Susie McCoy, Cookson.

Reunions/gatherings

Tiger Family

EUFAULA — A family reunion for the descendents of Miller Tiger, Jefferson Tiger, Wilson Tiger, Hattie Tiger Toney, Jeanetta Tiger Burgess, and Jesse Tiger will begin at 9 a.m., Aug. 25 at Eagle Bluffs Camp Ground.

The camp ground is located three-fourths of a mile south of downtown Eufaula on U.S. Highway 69 and west.

Individuals that are attending are requested to bring food items for the afternoon meal. Kitchen facilities will be available. A swimming pool, basketball court, tennis court, and fishing pond will also be available for use.

For more information, call (918) 456-1217, (918) 689-4180, or (918) 689-3654.

Oklahoma City Muscogee Association

OKLAHOMA CITY — The Oklahoma City Muscogee (Creek) Association is holding a cookout at 5 p.m., Sept. 4 prior to its regular meeting.

The association building is located at 543 S.E. 29th. For more information, call George Bunny at (405) 947-7752.

Francis Reunion

EUFAULA — The 14th Annual Francis Reunion will begin at 9 a.m., Sept. 29 at Artussee Baptist Church grounds.

Volleyball and domino games will be held and grab bags will be available for everyone. Each attending family is requested to bring a covered dish. For more information, contact Martha Phillips at (918) 689-9743.

McCombs Family report

EUFAULA — Tuskegee Indian Baptist Church was the host of the annual McCombs Family Reunion held on July 7. Descendants of Rev. William McCombs have gathered since the first reunion was called by Rev. McCombs on Thanksgiving Day, 1925.

Born and raised in Muskogee County, Rev. McCombs and his wife, Sally Jacobs, came to the McIntosh County in 1865. He was educated in government schools and he had served in the First Creek Regiment of Company C with the Confederacy. He was fluent in both the Maskoke and English languages. As a Baptist missionary, he preached to the Muscogee for many years. He was also prominent in tribal affairs serving: six terms on the Council; several years as superintendent of public instruction; four years on the Supreme Court; as interpreter for General Pleasant Porter, a Chief of the Nation.

The children of Rev. McCombs were: Lizzie McCombs, who married James Colbert; Sudie McCombs, who married William Bumgarner; Susie McCombs, who married P.R. Ewing; W.P. McCombs, who married Alice Lerblance; Tookah McCombs, who married A.E. Raiford; Bettie McCombs, who married C.H. Drew; and G.W. McCombs, who married Bessie Carr.

This year, Dan Drew conducted a morning program of introductions, reminiscing, and fellowship followed by a pot-luck luncheon and more visiting.

Attending were: Vivian McCosar, Bessie Lou Pope, Dan Drew and Jane Dunning, all from Tulsa; Elizabeth McCombs Hill, Blanche Hill Record, Lee, Lucas and Tanner Record, all from Norman; Bettie Deere Williston, Sunny Williston, J.J. and Jana Williston, and Mario Sands, all from Dallas, Texas.; Iris Ann and Lucas Drew from Albuquerque, N.M.; Doug Hawkins, McAlester; Kenneth and Pat Hawkins, Checotah; Charles and Linda Hawkins, Santa Cruz, Calif.; Craig, Renee, Reggie and Melissa Burrus, Rowlet, Texas; Ernest and Riletta Marshall, Oktaha; Pat, Ruby, and Donoven Nataro, Jones; Bob and Doris McCombs, Ana Marshall, Larry, Tanna and Robbie Huitt, all from Muskogee; Scott and Michelle McCombs from Oklahoma City; Geneva Colbert, Leona and Charlene Colbert, Rudolph and Millie Colbert, Pat, Nina, and Gina Nataro, Charles and Irena Wood, Taylor Phillips, and Bud McCombs, all from Eufaula.

Asbury and Bruner exchange vows in June

Rachel Asbury of Wetumka and Joe Bruner of Lamar were united in marriage on June 16 at Tookparfka Church by Clint Sinclair.

Serving as best man was Douglas Bruner, grandson of the groom. The maid of honor was Debbie Little. The flower girl was Katie Bruner, granddaughter of the groom. Josh Bruner, grandson of the groom, was the candlelighter. Ringbearers were Jimmy and Jake Asbury, grandchildren of the bride.

Mr. and Mrs. Bruner

Following the wedding was a reception held at Calvin High School Cafeteria by the Herrod sisters.

After the reception, the couple took a honeymoon trip to Eureka Springs, Ark. and Branson, Mo.

FLORIENE CHESBRO

PAWHUSKA — Funeral services for Floriene Mazilla Chesbro were held on May 30.

She was born on Sept. 24, 1918 to Frank and Effie Childers Woodard in Muskogee. She died on May 28 at Pawhuska Hospital. She was a retired beautician. Chesbro enjoyed gardening, fishing, reading, and spending time with her family and dog, "Candi."

Preceding her in death were: her parents; brother, Troy; and grandson, Kevin Vahey.

She is survived by: children, Bob Chesbro of Pawhuska and Susan Faatz of Columbus, Ind.; brother, Joe Charles Woodard; and three grandchildren, Claire Lemke, and Mackenzie and Cameron Chesbro.

GEORGE DEERINWATER

OKEMAH — Funeral services for George Amos Deerinwater were held on June 30 at Buckeye Baptist Church.

Wake services were held June 29 at the church.

He was born Oct. 15, 1934 in Braggs to Henry and Louise Hicks Deerinwater. Deerinwater grew up in Okfuskee County. He was a construction worker and served in the Air Force. He moved to Arizona in 1952 and returned to Okemah in 1982 to care for his parents. He returned to Arizona six years ago and resided there until his passing.

Preceding him in death were: his parents; and one brother, John Deerinwater.

Survivors include: six daughters, Melinda Deerinwater of Okmulgee, Christine Lewis, Janice VanWinkle, Sherri Barton, Georgene Deerinwater, and April Jensen all of Scottsdale, Ariz.; one son, Canaan Deerinwater of Tahlequah; three sisters, Susana Bear and Rosalie Dixon of Okemah, and Lavena Pearson of Bristow; two brothers, Alex and Gary Deerinwater, both of Bristow; and many other relatives and friends.

BENJAMIN HARJO

HENRYETTA — Funeral services for Benjamin Harjo were held July 16 at Robert Simons Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Mitchell Taylor officiating.

Wake services were held July 15 at the chapel

He was born on Jan. 3, 1921 in Kansas City, Mo. to James and Aggie Coachman Harjo. Harjo married Christine Marshall in 1951 and was a member of the Alabama Quassarte and Kialegee tribes.He served in the U.S. Army. He enlisted at a young age and made the military his career. Harjo has lived in many states while serving his country in the army and the Civil Service.

Preceding him in death were: his parents and one grandson, Graig Bucktrot.

He is survived by: his wife of the home; four sons, Frank Gene Harjo of Henryetta and James C., William, and Bennie Harjo, all of Dustin; four daughters, Mandy Zafar of Tulsa, Karen Powell of Bryant, Anna Harjo of Claremore, Judy Harjo of Tulsa; one sister, Leona Gibbons of Oklahoma City; 17 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and many other relatives and friends.

Interment was at the Buckley Family Cemetery, south of Weleetka.

JOHN RILEY

HENRYETTA — Funeral services for John Watson Riley were held July 9 at Hutchechubba Baptist Church with Rev. Houston Tiger and Deacon Wayne Holata officiating.

Wake services were held July 7 at the Robert Simons Funeral Home Chapel.

Riley was born Dec. 19, 1930 in Okfuskee County to Smitka and Ida Watson Riley. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. He was a member of Hutchechubba Baptist Church. He loved church, reading his Bible, and working on the church property.

Preceding him in death were: his parents; his wife, Christine Birdcreek; one granddaughter, Susan Ray Riley; one great-grandson, Taylor Frant Riley; four brothers, George Riley, Joe Riley, Thomas Arthur Lee Riley, Bunny Riley; and one sister, Judy Trillia Riley.

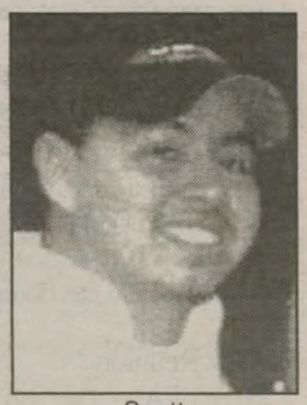
Survivors include: one son, Jonathan J. Riley of Weleetka; two daughters, Trillia Riley and Judy Kelsey, both of Weleetka; nine grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; one sister, Leona Frank of Moore; one nephew, Pete Riley of Sand Springs; one niece, Katherine Foster of Konowa; three great-nieces and two great-nephews.

Pallbearers were: Brent Smith; Bruce Smith; Gary Davis; Johnny Micco; Jerry Sumka; and Sidney Lee. Honorary pallbearers were: J.D. Roberts, Wallace Gambler, and Barton Looney. Interment was at Hutchechubba Church Cemetery.

JONATHAN SCOTT

DEL CITY — Funeral services for Jonathan C. Scott were held June 14 at Mary Lee Clark United Methodist Church.

He was born March 22, 1978 in Oklahoma City to David and Marlene Scott. He died on June 10. He enjoyed playing basketball with friends, watching games on television, and shooting pool at the Outback.



Scott

He was preceded in death by: his brother, Timothy Ray Scott; grandfathers, Mose Scott and Lewis Harjo; and stepgrandfather, Russell Thompson.

Survivors include: one son, Kvncate Scott; two daughters, Leandra Sands and Mariah Scott; grandmothers, Irene Thompson and Nonie Scott; uncles, Gilbert Scott, Bill Scott, Legus Harjo, Randy Harjo, Ron Harjo, Lewis Harjo Jr., and Jerry Harjo; aunts, Nancy Pigeon, Lou Chotkey, and Melody Robinson.

Interment was at Kolb Cemetery in Spencer.

GEORGE WALKER

HENRYETTA — Funeral services for George Walker were held May 2 at Roger's Funeral Home with Rev. John Wayne Tulsa officiating.

He was born Feb. 15, 1915 at his homestead in Henryetta to Digie and Manda Harjo Walker. He died April 29 at Hillcrest Medical Center. He belonged to the Bird Clan. He was married to Mary Taylor. He enjoyed the outdoors and was dedicated to his family. He lived in the Yardeka/Ryal Community most of his life.

Preceding him in death were: his parents; his wife; five children; two brothers, Robert and Alex Walker; and three sisters, Ella Taylor, Hepsey Frye, and Minnie Whitlow.

He is survived by: one son, Barney Walker; one daughter, Helen Walker of Henryetta; two grandchildren, Elliot and Norma Walker, both of Henryetta; two great-grandchildren, Jake and Aaron Walker, both of Henryetta; and many other relatives and friends.

Pallbearers were: Newman Taylor; Roley Taylor; William Frye; Walter Taylor Jr.; Gary Walker; and Tommy Walker. Interment was at Soweka Cemetery.

Indian Fellowship breaks ground for fellowship hall

A ground breaking ceremony for Indian Fellowship Baptist Church was held on July 14 for the construction of a new fellowship hall.

Pictured, left to right, are: Tulsa District Representative Earl King; Tulsa District Rep. Mary Sue Peak, Pastor William Alexander; Lucille and Tom Tiger, all charter members; Gary Dunn; and Rev. Jimmy Alexander.

Pastor Alexander conducted the service. Additional financial assistance to construct the building is still needed. Donations may be made to: P.O. Box 694, Oakhurst, OK 74050.

photo by Gerald Wofford

Gratitude

We extend our deepest thanks to the EMSA attendants and emergency room staff of Okmulgee Memorial Hospital, Jim McClendon, Jason Winters, Rev. Matt Tiger, Rev. Amos Harjo, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1189, VFW Post 539, Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver, Second Chief A.D. Ellis, and the personnel of social services.

To our loving family members and dear friends, our heart felt gratitude for all kind words of encouragement, flowers, food, cards, telephone calls, monetary gifts, preparation and serving of food, and clean up after meals, at our home and also the community building. Our sincere wish is that God be with and bless you. *Mvto.*

Ben Beaver Family

We want to express our sincere thanks for all the prayers offered while our loved one was in the hospital and during our bereavement.

We are grateful for the special efforts of support offered by: Donnie McNac and Amy Givens; special songs by Lucille Williams and Mae Jackson; and for all the other contributions of flowers, food, and offerings.

These expressions of love will not be forgotten. God bless all of you. *Mvto.*

Bessie Jimboy Family

We would like to express our appreciation to all those who sent flowers, food, monetary gifts, and offered prayers during this difficult time.

We would like to extend a special thank you to: Little Baptist Church; Phillip Fox; and Jimmy Alexander for all your help. *Mvto.*

Abbey Washington Family

The Muscogee Nation News

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Council races draw fifty-two candidates; nine races unopposed

OKMULGEE — Fifty-two tribal citizens have filed for 26 Muscogee (Creek) National Council seats.

With the exception of Okfuskee District representatives — Famous Marshall, Bruce Smith, and Bill Fife — and Creek District's Sheridan Pickering, each current representative is seeking reelection. Nine incumbents drew no opponents.

Tribal Election Dates
Primary election — Sept. 22
General election — Nov. 3

See candidate profiles starting on page 9

Races without contest are:

- **McIntosh** — *Seat B*: Wilbur Gouge, incumbent;
- **Muskogee** — *Seat A*: Helen Chupco, incumbent and *Seat B*: Harley Gene Little, incumbent;
- **Okmulgee** — *Seat E*: David Nichols, incumbent;
- **Tulsa** — *Seat A*: Larry S. Bible, incumbent; Seat D: Robert. L. Hufft, incumbent; and *Seat E:* Jesse F. Kelley, incumbent; and
- **Wagoner** — *Seat A*: Richard Berryhill, incumbent; and *Seat B*: Barbara Gillespie, incumbent.

The election for the 12th session of National Council marks consecutive unopposed elections for: Gouge, who hasn't been opposed since 1997; Chupco, whose last opponent was in 1995; Little, who was last opposed in 1997; Bible, who hasn't had an opponent since 1995; and Kelley's last opponent was during the 1997 election — as was Berryhills.

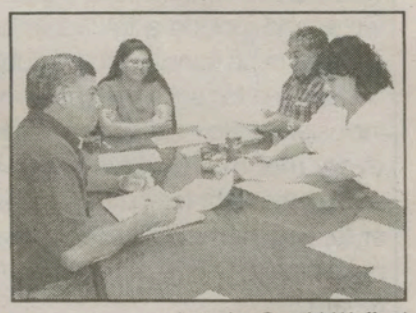
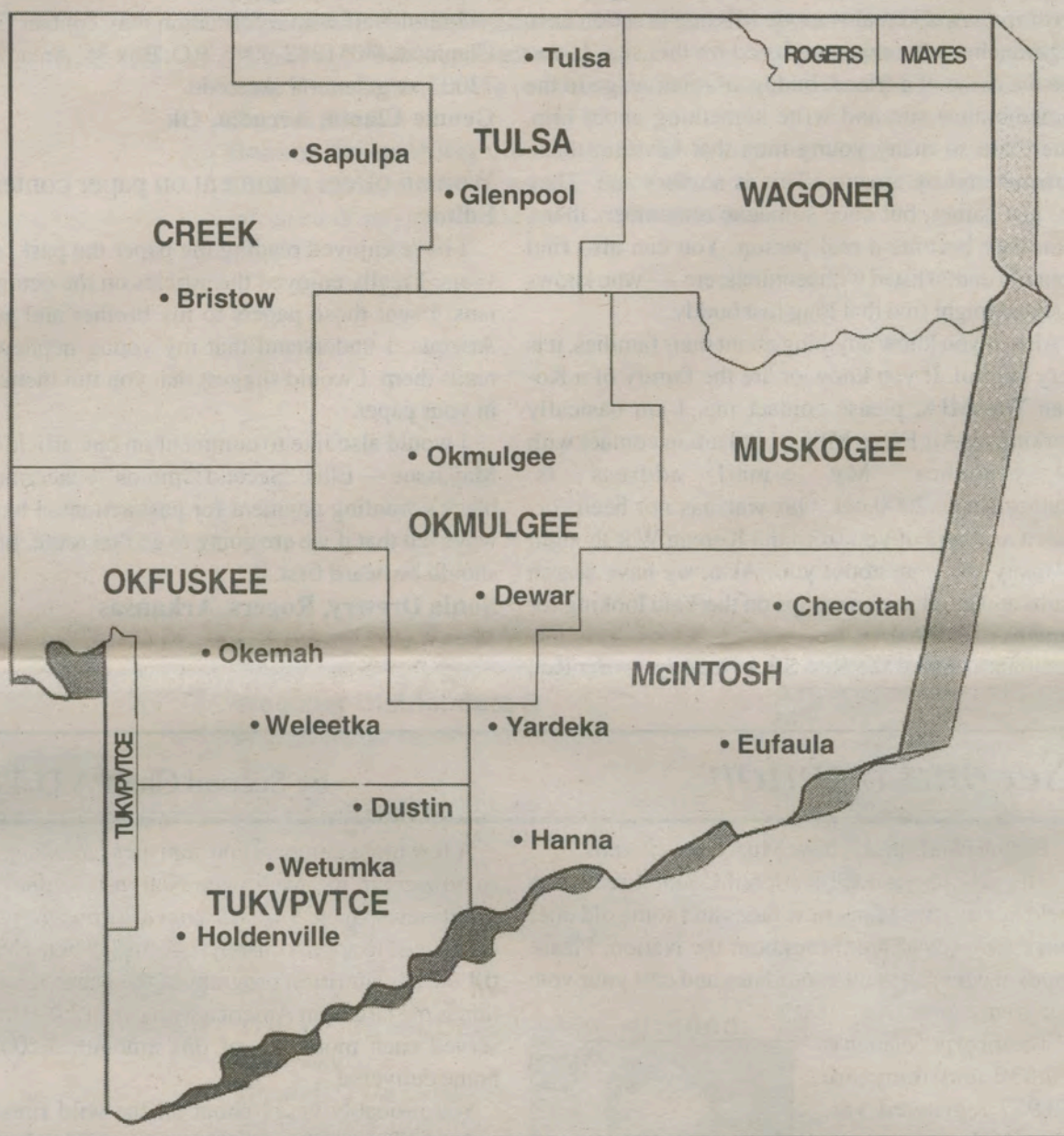


photo by Gerald Wofford

Election Board Office Secretary Tracey Lowe, far right, processes filing papers for Tulsa District Representative Larry Bible, far left, who has not been opposed since 1995. Pictured in the background is Notary Public Melinda Taylor, human development, and Election Board Member L.C. Franks.

Council representatives are compensated with a monthly salary of $800 ($9,600 yearly). The second speaker receives $900 monthly ($10,800 annually). The position of

please see **ELECTION...**, page 6



Muscogee (Creek) Nation voting precincts designated

The above map and the following precinct locations are printed in accordance with National Council Act 81-82 at article 3, section 311.

The polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Sept. 22. As there are no races in Muskogee and Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes districts, no precincts are listed for these districts.

Creek District

- Bristow Indian Community Center: 710 W. Main
- Sapulpa Indian Community Center: 1020 N. Brown

McIntosh District

- Checotah Indian Community Center: 998 Maple
- Eufaula Indian Community Center: 800 Forest Ave.
- Hanna Indian Community Center: two and three-fourths miles east of Hanna
- Yardeka Indian Community Center: eight miles southeast of Henryetta

Okfuskee District

- Okemah Indian Community Center: 1100 S. Woody Guthrie St.
- Weleetka Indian Community Center: 602 S. Chickasaw

Okmulgee District

- Dewar Indian Community Center: 212 Luella St.
- Okmulgee Indian Community Center: 2700 N. Miami — east of U.S. Highway 75 on loop 56

Tukvpvtce District

- Dustin Indian Community Center: two blocks north of state highway 9 on state highway 84 — across from Dustin Post Office
- Holdenville Indian Community: 224 E. Poplar
- Wetumka Indian Community: 608 N. Creek

Tulsa District

- Glenpool Indian Community Center: 13839 S. Casper — east of 141st Street and U.S. Highway 75
- Tulsa Indian Community Center: 8611 S. Union

Letters to the editor

Woman serving as family locator for MIAs

Editor:

I am a Muscogee citizen and an Air Force Veteran from 1952-1959. I've been recruited to be a family locator for missing in action from the Korean War. My job is to locate families of Korean War MIAs and put them in contact with the missing persons office from their branch of service.

This letter is to all my Muscogee brothers and sisters who were in service during the Korean War or who had friends or family who went MIA in Korea. If you have access to the internet, I encourage you to see http://www.koreanwar.org. Missing in action from all branches of service are listed on this site. If you see the name of a friend, buddy, or relative, go to the remembrance site and write something about him. There are so many young men that have not been remembered by anyone. This is so very sad. They are just names, but once someone remembers them, then they become a real person. You can also find your old unit(s) listed with reunions, etc. — who knows you just might find that long lost buddy.

Also, if you know anything about their families, it is very helpful. If you know or are the family of a Korean War MIA, please contact me. I am basically working on Air Force MIAs, but I am in contact with all branches. My e-mail address is: smunoz@apex2000.net. Our war has not been forgotten as many of you from the Korean War thought — many still care about you. Also, we have search teams at the old prison camps on the Yalu looking for remains of our MIAs.

My hat is off to the Red Stick Society — my Red Stick ancestors would be very proud of you and to know the society has not been forgotten.

Sylvia O. Bailey-Munoz, Midland, Tex.

Family seeks information on relative

Editor:

The family of Juanita Mitchell is seeking information on her biological mother, Jeanetta Tiger.

Tiger was born around 1892 died around 1925. She is the daughter of Luchinda and Catchochee. She had three siblings: Jesse; Miller; and Hettie. Mitchell was born in 1925 and attended Eufaula Boarding School between 1932 through 1939.

Individuals with information may contact Gennie Clanin at: (405) 282-0046, P.O. Box 36, Arcadia, OK 73007; or gclanin@okcu.edu.

Gennie Clanin, Arcadia, Ok

Woman offers comment on paper content

Editor:

I have enjoyed reading the paper the past several years. I really enjoyed the articles on the octogenarians. I sent those papers to my brother and aunt in Arizona. I understand that my young nephew also reads them. I would suggest that you run them again in your paper.

I would also like to comment on one article in the May issue — Ellis' "Second Opinion" concerning the black's wanting payment for past actions. I have always felt that if we are going to go that route, Indians should be heard first.

Sonia Drewry, Rogers, Arkansas

July District Court filings

Protective Orders:

- Nellie Powell Looney vs. Lambert Tisho
- Lisa Lindsey vs. Earnest Harjo
- Pamela Barnett vs. Gary Littlehead and Esther Lunsford
- Walter Lewis vs. June Lewis

Divorce:

- David Proctor vs. Lora Ann Proctor
- Bronson R. Phillips vs. Kerry Lynn Phillips

Criminal Misdemeanor:

- Eugina Hausam,

Count 1: disorderly conduct
Count 2: resisting arrest

Traffic:

- Tierra Beaver,

Count 1: driving a motor vehicle without the consent of the owner
Count 2: reckless driving
Count 3: operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license

Civil/Small Claims:

- Barksdale, Robinson, and Wiemer vs. Rocky Ray McIntosh

Second opinion

by Second Chief A.D. Ellis

Hello friends and fellow Muscogee citizens.

The filing period for National Council seats was held last month. Many new faces and some old ones have filed for office throughout the Nation. Please study the merits of all candidates and cast your vote for your choice.

The tribal population is 50,630 and there are 13,977 registered voters. Of these, approximately 4,128 are absentees and 1,330 names were returned with bad addresses. Absentee voters in our Nation have a huge impact on the election.

In August, a meeting was held at the Okmulgee bingo hall pertaining to the constitutional amendment process. Professor Richard Monette, from the University of Wisconsin, who is an expert on tribal constitutional process, was the featured speaker. Most people don't seem interested in the Constitution, but changes may effect all of us. What if blood quantum was set at one-eighth Muscogee (Creek) blood to be a citizen — would that interest you? Suggested changes and public forums will happen in the near future.

A few more numbers and statistics: auto tags sold to citizens in the Muscogee Nation is 24,000; the tribal newspaper, *The Muscogee Nation News*, is distributed to approximately 7,400 tribal households; the elderly nutrition program of the Muscogee Nation is the largest in America with over 12,000 meals served each month — of this amount, 3,200 are home delivered.

You probably heard about all the wild fires out west around California, Oregon, and Washington. Around 30 Muscogee Nation fire fighters and two emergency medical technicians were dispatched to Washington to help fight fire. Let's remember these young men and women in our prayers as they risk their lives to fight these fires.

I visited Wetumka Indian Community Center in August also. I always get there about 30 minutes before lunch and always find several Creek men setting under the shade tree on logs — talking and laughing. We talk and visit about most anything and then eat; after lunch it is back to the shade tree and conversation never stops. As I was driving home, I pictured this scene 200 years ago — of men sitting under a shade tree on logs, talking about their families.

Quote of the month: *There are eight degrees of charity. The highest is when you help a man help himself. Mvto.*

The Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to ***The Muscogee Nation News***, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of every month.** ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Standard Class A from Okmulgee, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

Stephanie Barnett, managing editor
Gerald Wofford, photography
Denise Jacobs, page layout
Jennifer Taryole, circulation

American Indian HIV/AIDS course offered

NORMAN — An American Indian HIV/AIDS instructor course is being held Sept. 22 through 24 at the American Red Cross Training Institute, University of Oklahoma campus.

The American Indian HIV/AIDS instructor course:

- enables participant to receive dual certification — basic HIV/AIDS program fundamentals and American Indian Decision to Survive instructor certification when successfully completed. Courses requires written tests, a five to 10 minute presentation and attendance all three days;
- provides diversity awareness of American Indian cultures and the psychosocial issues involved in the American Indian response to AIDS and health issues;
- provides basic factual information in a culturally sensitive manner;
- provides ways to incorporate cultural elements into HIV prevention;
- looks at the challenges American Indian people face in prevention;
- answers questions about HIV and AIDS in a culturally sensitive and age appropriate manner;
- is taught in a comfortable, safe, fun, and culturally sensitive environment with an American Indian instructor trainer;
- is offered at no cost — lunch is provided daily.

A minimum of six participants is required to hold class, with a maximum of 15 participants.

For more information, contact Dannette McIntosh at (918) 831-1215 or Jim Corder at (405) 948-2641.

Women's business center opening

NORMAN — Oklahomans for Indian Opportunity is hosting the grand opening and celebration of the OIO Women's Business Center from 4 to 6 p.m., Sept. 26 at 3001 S. Berry Road.

The celebration will feature guest and speaker Edna Hennessee, founder and owner of Cosmetic Specialty Labs in Lawton and the honorary chair of the OIO Women's Business Center.

"We are very interested in business development; that's something that OIO has done for many years," said Iola Hayden, OIO Executive director, "We saw the need for women to have the opportunity to see whether they want to go into business. We also want to help women who are receiving federal assistance view business ownership as a way to become their own person."

The OIO Women's Business Center will provide assistance to all women across Oklahoma, except those in Oklahoma City. There is a separate women's business center in Oklahoma City.

Betty Olivas is the director of the OIO Women's Business Center. The center operates on a grant from the federal government's Small Business Administration.

For more information, call the center at (800) 375-3737.

Constitutional reform lecture attended by tribal leaders

photo by Gerald Wofford

Muscogee Nation tribal and community leaders and tribal citizens attended a workshop on constitutional reform given by Richard A. Monette, pictured at far right, an authority on Indian constitutional law. National Council Speaker Wilbur Gouge, far left, and Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes District Representative Richard Berryhill, middle, visit with Monette.

Haskell class of 61 holding 40th reunion

LAWRENCE, Kan. — Haskell Institute graduates of 1961 are holding their 40th class reunion in conjunction with homecoming weekend Oct. 12 through 14.

All 1961 high school and postgraduates (commercial and vocational) of Haskell Institute, as well as other alumni, are encouraged to attend class of 61 reunion activities.

There will be a dinner/dance on Oct. 13. The cost is $25 per person to attend.

For a complete 1961 40th reunion information packet, call or write: Dempsey Micco, (785)842-8945, P.O. Box 4175, Lawrence, KS 66046 or Flo Tanner Spotted Bear, (918) 342-6403, 25078 S. 4205 Road, Inola, OK 73046.

Jones male academy alumni to reunite

HARTSHORNE — A reunion of alumni who attended Jones Academy through 1954 will begin at 10 a.m., Oct. 20.

For more information, call: Jimmy Bruner at (580) 298-3136; Ted LeFlore at (580) 889-7989; or Tom Williston at (580) 286–3585.

Eufaula Boarding School to hold reunion

EUFAULA — A reunion of students who attended the Eufaula Boarding School is in the planning stages.

A committee meeting will be held to assign subcommittees in late October. All former alumni are encouraged to contact the committee with suggestions, ideas, and interest.

For more information, contact: Arnold "Dean" Jefferson at (918) 267-5280; or Christine Harjo McHenley at (405) 382-0081.

Muscogee students well supplied for starting school

photo by Gerald Wofford

Right: The Okmulgee Johnson O'Malley program recently distributed school supplies to children on its active JOM school roster. Kina Leybas, Okmulgee JOM chair, second from left, and Tammy Lewis, Okmulgee JOM coordinator, third from left, give students Joshua SpottedHorse, far left, and Talia Whitebull, far right, backpacks.

photo by Gerald Wofford

Left: The Creek Nation Senior Citizens of Okmulgee recently gave a $250 donation to Hanna Indian Community for its school supplies donation drive for school youth living within its boundaries. Pictured, left to right, are: Suzy Harjo, HIC secretary-treasurer; Jean Sneed, senior citizens gift shop volunteer clerk; Esther Gee, senior citizen's treasurer; Stell Simpson, HIC chair; Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver; and Donna Martin, community development organizer.

Muscogee 4-H youth prepare for retreat

OKMULGEE — The Creek Nation 4-H Program is growing and experiencing educational opportunities.

Members are currently preparing to join other 4-H members from the Northeast District in October at a three day retreat near Gore. The "Youth In Action" Conference is open to 4-H members who are 13 — or will be by Jan. 1, 2002 — or older. However, delegates cannot have graduated high school unless he/she attends as an adult volunteer. Volunteers are needed on an eight to one ratio.

"This trip is known to be a very fun filled event with entertainment, movies, a dance, ice cream sundaes, and a service learning activity just to name a few, said Jamie Littlefield, Muscogee Nation 4-H Extension educator.

Participants will depart on Oct. 17 and return the Oct. 19. The retreat is scheduled during school breaks for state teacher meetings. All lodging, snacks, meals, and activity costs are covered in the registration fee, which is $60 for youth and $68 for adults. Conference T–shirts may be purchased for an additional $8 to $10. The payment and registration deadline is September 20.

Applications for assistance with the project cost of a pig are due to Littlefield by 5 p.m., Oct. 1. Applications are available throughout the Creek Nation 4-H Office, extension offices within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation boundaries, and respective school principals or Johnson O'Malley coordinators. Priority for awards will be given to those individuals who are new to 4-H and show financial need.

Applicants must verify tribal ties with a copy of their Certificate Degree of Indian Blood card. Award recipients must be current-year 4-H members. If an individual is not currently enrolled in 4-H, isn't sure, or would like to be, Littlefield, at (918) 756–8700 or 1 (800) 482–1979, ext. 610. Littlefield's office is located in the human development building on the tribal capital complex.

Enrollment for the Muscogee Nation 4-H program is open to youth ranging in ages five to 19 who reside within the boundaries of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Council voting report for 2001

Editor's note: The following report of voting results have been derived from officially approved minutes of the following meetings:

- Jan. 27 — quarterly session;
- Feb. 24 — regular session;
- March 31 — regular session;
- April 10 — emergency session;
- June 7 — special session; and
- June 30 — regular session.

A report of voting results for the following meetings is not given as minutes have not been officially approved by the National Council: April 28 — quarterly session; May 7 — emergency session; May 19 — regular session; and Aug. 25 — regular session.

A report of voting results for the July 28 quarterly session is not given as the minutes were not available at press time.

First quarterly session — Jan. 27:

Absent were: **Sheridan Pickering**, Creek; and **Tom Pickering**. Record notes that the two were not in attendance because of a death in the family.

In unfinished business the National Council:

• voted (24-0-0) to let stand the principal chief's veto of National Council Act 00-159 — amending the Creek Nation Housing Authority contracts and/or agreements with contractors for home repairs;

voting yes were (representatives listed by district): **Duke Harjo**, Creek; **Jacob Mosquito**, **Helen Chupco**, Muskogee; Creek; **Harley Little**, Muskogee; **Wilbur Gouge**, McIntosh; **Thomas McIntosh**, McIntosh; **Famous Marshall**, Okfuskee; **Bruce Smith**, Okfuskee; **Bill Fife**, Okfuskee; **David Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Keeper Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Anderson Hale,** Okmulgee; **Sandra Turner Peters**, Okmulgee; **David Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Dwayne Lowe**, Tukvpvtce; **James McGirt**, Tukvpvtce; **Nathan Buck,** Tukvpvtce; **Larry Bible**, Tulsa; **Mary Sue Peak**, Tulsa; **Earl King**, Tulsa; **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa; **Jesse Kelley**, Tulsa; **Richard Berryhill**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; and **Barbara Gillespie**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes;

Speaker **Gouge** conducted the meeting and did not vote;

• approved unanimously (23-0-0) to table NCA 01-23 — appropriating funds to advertise for bids to demolish the old Sapulpa Head Start building and to construct a new Head Start center at the same location in Sapulpa;

• approved (22-0-0) as amended NCA 01-01 — authorizing the principal chief to contract to purchase property in Okmulgee District and appropriating funds for said purpose. The act authorizes the principal chief to contract to purchase property where the Gold Kist Peanut Plant was formerly located — near Sever Street and Box Avenue in Okmulgee — for $50,000;

Record reflects that **Bible**, Tulsa, was not seated for the vote — he was later excused from the meeting because of a death in the family;

• approved unanimously (22-0-0) NCA 01-02 — amending NCA 91-36 (an ordinance of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation repealing NCA 89-46). National Council Act 89-46 approved a contract with Marvin Stepson as the attorney general for the Muscogee Nation. As Stepson did not fulfill employment, NCA 91-36 was enacted in May 1991 to repeal the approval. According to research, the reference in NCA 91-36 to NCA 89-46 was in error. The reference should have been made to NCA 90-46. Therefore, NCA 91-36 is amended to correct the reference of NCA 89-46 to reflect NCA 90-46 in all appropriate places;

• approved unanimously (22-0-0) NCA 01-03 — authorizing the principal chief to pursue the feasibility of the Montezuma Lake Project in Okmulgee County. The project, presented to the Council by Lester Ligons, U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Services Tribal Resource Conservationist, consists of the construction of a multipurpose lake on Montezuma Creek. The lake, which would be located between Henryetta and Okmulgee, would provide a water supply to the City of Henryetta;

• approved unanimously (22-0-0) NCA 01-11 — authorizing an appropriation for Wetumka Indian Community to acquire and remodel a building on highway 9 and to repeal NCA 99-44. Eighty-five thousand dollars will be appropriated to purchase land and a building. National Council Act 99-44 appropriated funds for the community to purchase a building; the building was purchased by another party, thus NCA 99-44 has been repealed;

• approved unanimously (22-0-0) NCA 01-12 — enacting a new law governing the enactment and codification of legislation and repealing NCA 96-96. The act will be entitled "Chapter One. Legislation; Codification of Laws" and will be placed in Title 30, "National Council/Legislative Branch," of the Code of Law of the Muscogee Nation;

• approved unanimously (22-0-0) NCA 01-17 — authorizing the principal chief to enter into an addendum to the lease agreement entered into by and between the Nation and Pitney Bowes Credit Corporation. The addendum contains a waiver of sovereign immunity. The Council waived the Nations immunity from suit for the limited purpose of resolving any disputes between the Nation and Pitney Bowes Credit Corporation arising under the addendum;

• approved unanimously (22-0-0) NCA 01-18 — amending NCA 00-97, entitled an ordinance of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing the principal chief to negotiate for and purchase restricted property in Hughes County, State of Oklahoma, and to enter into an agreement with Alabama/Quassartee Ceremonial Ground.

National Council Act 00-97 was amended for the following reasons: it does not clearly describe the 154 acres of restricted land to purchased and does not expressly state that only the surface is to be purchased for the amount authorized ($500 per acre); it authorizes a contract to purchase the land, but the contract could be unenforceable because of the restricted status of the land; it requires that the contract be subject to title clearances and environmental use clearances required by the Nation; since there can be no such contract, it is necessary to clarify the Council's apparent intent that the principal chief must secure title clearances and environmental and use clearances before purchase of the property through a deed approval proceeding in the state district court in Hughes County as required by the Act of August 4, 1947; it authorizes the principal chief to apply for placement of the property into trust after purchase of property, but it is unclear whether the principal chief, before the purchase of the property, must secure title clearances and environmental use clearances sufficient to indicate that the title and environmental requirements for trust acquisitions are likely to be satisfied; and it contains no requirements concerning the appraisal of the property;

• approved unanimously (22-0-0) NCA 01-19 — appropriating funds and authorizing the expenditure of funds for the fiscal year 2000 Stop Violence Against Indian Women Grant;

• approved unanimously (22-0-0) NCA 01-20 — authorizing the expenditure of Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program funds in the amount of $11,267 received by the tribal social services program; and

• approved unanimously (22-0-0) as amended Tribal Resolution 01-01 — authorizing the principal chief to execute an agreement between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and West Publishing Company. The Council has enacted a new law, NCA 01-12, which will result in the codification of Muscogee Nation law when implemented. The act authorizes the codification committee to select a publisher to publish the Code of Laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and appropriates $100,000 for the implementation of this act; and

• approved unanimously (22-0-0) TR 01-02 — requesting Congress to address disparities in the Indian Health Care System.

Regular session — Feb. 24:

Absent was **Hale**, Okmulgee.

Speaker **Gouge**, McIntosh, conducted the meeting and did note vote.

In the order of business the Council:

• approved unanimously (24-0-0) National Council Resolution 01-01 — confirming the nomination of Waukomis L. Lewis to serve on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health Systems Board. Lewis fills the unexpired term of Carney Roberts. The term ends on July 29, 2002;

voting yes were (representatives listed by district): **T. S. Pickering**, Creek; **Harjo**, Creek; **Mosquito**, Creek; **Chupco**, Muskogee; **Little**, Muskogee; **T. Pickering**, McIntosh; **McIntosh**, McIntosh; **Marshall**, Okfuskee; **Smith**, Okfuskee; **Fife**, Okfuskee; **Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Peters**, Okmulgee; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Lowe**, Tukvpvtce; **McGirt**, Tukvpvtce; **Buck,** Tukvpvtce; **Bible**, Tulsa; **Peak**, Tulsa; **King**, Tulsa; **Hufft**, Tulsa; **Kelley**, Tulsa; **Berryhill**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes;

• approved unanimously (24-0-0) National Council Resolution 01-02 — confirming the nomination of Brent Oliver Hale Jr., M.D., to serve on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health Systems Board. Hale fills the unexpired term of Beatrice Sanders. The term ends on Oct. 29, 2002; and

• approved unanimously (24-0-0) to let die on the floor NCA 01-23 — appropriating funds to advertise for bids to demolish the old Sapulpa Head Start building and to construct a new Head Start center at the same location in Sapulpa. The bill was tabled during the December and January regular sessions of the Council.

Regular session — March 31:

Absent was **Mosquito**, Creek.

Speaker **Gouge**, McIntosh, conducted the meeting and did note vote.

In the order of business the Council:

• approved unanimously (24-0-0) TR 01-05 — authorizing the principal chief to sign a Sac and Fox Nation Juvenile Detention Services agreement with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

voting yes were (representatives listed by district): **S. Pickering**, Creek; **Harjo**, Creek; **Chupco**, Muskogee; **Little**, Muskogee; **T. Pickering**, McIntosh; **McIntosh**, McIntosh; **Marshall**, Okfuskee; **Smith**, Okfuskee; **Fife**, Okfuskee; **Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Hale**, Okmulgee; **Peters**, Okmulgee; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Lowe**, Tukvpvtce; **McGirt**, Tukvpvtce; **Buck,** Tukvpvtce; **Bible**, Tulsa; **Peak**, Tulsa; **King**, Tulsa; **Hufft**, Tulsa; **Kelley**, Tulsa; **Berryhill**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes;

• approved unanimously (24-0-0) TR 01-06 — authorizing the execution of an agreement, part 1, by the principal

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Voting

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chief between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and SGS, L.L.C.;

Record reflects that **Mosquito**, Creek, arrived late;

• approved unanimously (25-0-0) TR 01-07 — authorizing the principal chief to execute a contract for the purchase of real property located in Muskogee to be used for economic development purposes;

• approved unanimously (25-0-0) TR 01-08 — authorizing the extension of an audit contract with John Arledge and Associates upon the completion of the fiscal year 2000 audit;

• approved unanimously (25-0-0) TR 01-09 — authorizing the principal chief to execute a contract for the purchase of real property located in Sapulpa;

• approved as amended (16-9-0) NCA 01-16 — appropriating tribal funds for a fellowship hall and class rooms for Indian Fellowship Baptist Church;

voting no were: **S. Pickering**, Creek; **Harjo**, Creek; **Chupco**, Muskogee; **Little,** Muskogee; **Lewis,** Okmulgee; **Hale,** Okmulgee; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Lowe,** Tukvpvtce; and **McGirt**, Tukvpvtce;

• approved unanimously (25-0-0) to return to committee NCA 01-22 — authorizing the expenditure of expansion funds received for the Checotah Head Start Center;

• approved unanimously (25-0-0) NCA 01-24 — enacting an appropriation to the social services department for temporary emergency personnel;

• approved unanimously (25-0-0) NCA 01-29 — enacting an appropriation for commissioning a nursing home facility task force;

• approved unanimously (25-0-0) NCA 01-30 — authorizing the principal chief to appropriate additional funds to the office of the tax commission;

• approved unanimously (25-0-0) NCA 01-31 — appropriation funds to the tax commission office for the development of a tribal tax software program;

• approved unanimously (25-0-0) NCA 01-32 — authorizing the expenditure of additional Low Income Heat and Energy Assistance Program funds for social services;

• approved unanimously (25-0-0) NCA 01-33 — authorizing the expenditure of funds received for Eufaula Dormitory;

• approved unanimously (25-0-0) NCA 01-34 — authorizing the expenditure of funds from the Bureau of Indian Affairs Self-Governance compact to demolish an abandoned house on restricted property;

• tabled (14-11-0) NCA 01-35 — appropriating funds for road construction and repair at the commodity warehouse, General Services Administration building, and Okmulgee Health Clinic;

voting no were: **Mosquito**, Creek; **Little**, Muskogee; **McIntosh**, McIntosh; **Marshall**, Okfuskee; **Smith**, Okfuskee; **Fife,** Okfuskee; **Lewis**, Okmulgee; **McGirt**, Tukvpvtce; **King,** Tulsa; **Hufft**, Tulsa; **Kelley**, Tulsa;

• tabled (22-3-0) NCA 01-37 — amending NCA 00-125 (approving the comprehensive annual budget for FY 2001 and providing for appropriations) by revision of section 109;

voting no were: **T. Pickering,** McIntosh; **Hale,** Okmulgee; **Bible,** Tulsa;

• approved unanimously (25-0-0) NCA 01-38 — appropriating funds for the Muscogee Nation Challenge Bowl being coordinated by the tribal Johnson O'Malley program;

• approved unanimously (25-0-0) NCA 01-39 — appropriating funds to pay the incarceration charge to house Muscogee Nation prisoners in the county jail;

• approved unanimously (25-0-0) NCA 01-40 — authorizing the purchase of property in Sapulpa (Creek County) as a site for the Sapulpa Head Start Center and appropriating funds for the purchase and for related costs;

• approved unanimously (25-0-0) NCA 01-41 — authorizing the expenditure of a grant received by the children and family services department (division of community services);

• approved unanimously (25-0-0) NCA 01-42 — requesting a supplemental appropriation for the tribal hardship program in the amount to $9,500 for the remainder of FY 2001;

• approved unanimously (25-0-0) NCA 01-43 — amending section 116 of NCA 00-174, relating to use of earmarked tax revenues, to be codified in title 42 of the Code of Laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

• approved (23-1-0) NCA 01-44 — authorizing the expenditure of funds to survey and map the tribal capitol complex area from funds provided for such in NCA 00-174, section 116 (revised motor vehicle tax code);

voting no was **T. Pickering**, McIntosh;

There is no vote recorded for **Marshall**, Okfuskee, on this act;

• approved (24-0-0) NCA 01-45 — appropriating tribal funds to the ACCES. Indian club of Haskell Indian Nations University;

There is no vote recorded for **Marshall**, Okfuskee, on this act;

• approved unanimously (24-0-0) as amended NCA 01-46 — appropriating funds for construction of a center for Bristow Indian Community;

Record reflects that **Fife**, Okfuskee, was out of his seat at the time the vote was taken;

• approved unanimously (25-0-0) NCA 01-47 — appropriating funds for the purchase of real property in Muskogee to be used for economic development purposes;

• failed (10-15-0) NCA 01-53 — governing the expenditure of tribal funds through appropriations and amending NCA 97-07, as amended, and NCA 94-16, as amended;

voting no were: **S. Pickering**, Creek; **Harjo**, Creek; **Chupco**, Muskogee; **Little**, Muskogee; **T. Pickering** McIntosh, **McIntosh**, McIntosh; **Smith**, Okfuskee; **Hale**, Okmulgee; **Peters**, Okmulgee; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Lowe**, Tukvpvtce; **Buck**, Tukvpvtce; **Bible**, Tulsa; **Kelley**, Tulsa; **Gillespie**, Wagoner; and

• tabled (16-9-0) NCA 01-55 — appropriating funds for the 27th annual Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival;

voting no were: **S. Pickering**, Creek; **Little**, Muskogee; **McIntosh**, McIntosh; **Fife**, Okfuskee; **Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Peters**, Okmulgee; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Hufft**, Tulsa; **Berryhill**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes.

In other business the Council:

• failed to approve (4-20-1) an amendment to rules and procedures which would allow Council committee chairs to place numbered bills on committee agendas for consideration within 30 calendar days, but not sooner than seven calendar days after the receipt of the assignment letter;

voting no were: **S. Pickering**, Creek; **Mosquito**, Creek; **Chupco**, Muskogee; **Little**, Muskogee; **McIntosh**, McIntosh; **Marshall**, Okfuskee; **Smith**, Okfuskee; **Fife,** Okfuskee; **Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Hale**, Okmulgee; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Lowe**, Tukvpvtce; **McGirt**, Tukvpvtce; **Buck**, Tukvpvtce; Tulsa; **Bible**, Tulsa; **Peak**, Tulsa; **Hufft**, Tulsa; **Kelley**, Tulsa; and **Berryhill**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes.

Emergency session — April 10:

Absent were: **S. Pickering**, Creek; **Mosquito**, Creek; **T. Pickering**, McIntosh; **Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Buck**, Tukvpvtce; **Bible**, Tulsa; and **King**, Tulsa.

Speaker **Gouge**, McIntosh, conducted and did not vote.

In the order of business the Council:

• approved unanimously (17-0-0) as amended NCA 01-55 — appropriating funds for the 27th annual Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival in the amount of $75,000.

voting yes were (representatives listed by district): **Harjo**, Creek; **Chupco**, Muskogee; **Little**, Muskogee; **McIntosh**, McIntosh; **Marshall**, Okfuskee; **Smith**, Okfuskee; **Fife**, Okfuskee; **Hale**, Okmulgee; **Peters**, Okmulgee; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Lowe**, Tukvpvtce; **McGirt**, Tukvpvtce; **Peak**, Tulsa; **Hufft**, Tulsa; **Kelley**, Tulsa; **Berryhill**, Wagoner; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner.

Special session — June 7:

Absent were: **S. Pickering**, Creek; **Harjo**, Creek; **Mosquito**, Creek; **Marshall**, Okfuskee; **Hale**, Okmulgee; **Buck**, Tukvpvtce; **Bible**, Tulsa; and **Hufft**, Tulsa.

Speaker **Wilbur Gouge**, McIntosh District, conducted and did not vote.

In the order of business the Council:

• approved (16-0-0) NCA 01-90 — approving the fiscal year 2001 Indian Housing Plan;

voting yes were: **Chupco**, Muskogee; **Little**, Muskogee; **T. Pickering**, McIntosh; **McIntosh**, McIntosh; **Smith**, Okfuskee; **Fife**, Okfuskee; **Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Peters**, Okmulgee; **Lowe**, Tukvpvtce; **McGirt**, Tukvpvtce; Tulsa; **Peak**, Tulsa; **King**, Tulsa; **Kelley**, Tulsa; **Berryhill**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes;

• approved (16-0-0) NCA 01-100 — amending NCA 00-149 § 3-104 paragraph 1, providing for a sales tax exemption for various persons and entities, to be codified in Title 36 of the Code of Laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

• approved (16-0-0) NCA 01-103 — authorizing a special appropriation for the National American Indian Court Judges Association for a summer tour of Indian court systems; and

• approved (16-0-0) a motion to go into executive session.

There is no vote recorded for **Nichols**, Okmulgee, for the entirety of this session.

Regular session — June 30:

Absent were **Harjo**, Creek and **Mosquito**, Creek.

The following veto messages were acted upon:

• overrode (16-8-0) NCA 01-56 — directing the housing authority to adopt new contracts and/or agreements with contractors;

voting yes were: **S. Pickering**, Creek; **Chupco**, Muskogee; **Little**, Muskogee; **T. Pickering**, McIntosh; **Gouge,** McIntosh; **McIntosh**, McIntosh; **Hale**, Okmulgee; **Peters**, Okmulgee; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Buck,** Tukvpvtce; **Bible**, Tulsa; **Peak**, Tulsa; **King**, Tulsa; **Hufft**, Tulsa; **Kelley**, Tulsa; and **Berryhill**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes;

voting no were: **Marshall**, Okfuskee; **Smith**, Okfuskee; **Fife**, Okfuskee; **Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Lowe**, Tukvpvtce; **McGirt**, Tukvpvtce; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes;

• overrode unanimously (24-0-0) NCA 01-60 — amending NCA 96-18 (Executive Office Reorganization Act of 1996) and appropriating funds for the establishment of office of veterans affairs services for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

• overrode unanimously (24-0-0) NCA 01-89 — authorizing a special appropriation to the Tahlahvse Ceremonial Ground (Cromwell) for their Green Corn Ceremony;

Speaker **Gouge**, McIntosh, conducted and did not vote.

In unfinished business the Council:

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• approved (21-2-0) NCA 01-66 — amending NCA 96-41 and NCA 96-03 (as amended by NCA 98-34) to grant the principal chief the authority to sell cattle, crops, and equipment that belong to the farm;

voting no were: **S. Pickering**, Creek; and **T. Pickering**, McIntosh.

In the order of business the Council:

• approved unanimously (23-0-0) TR 01-16 — supporting the proposed funding for the drug elimination program grantees under Housing and Urban Development through Indian housing authorities and/or tribes to be reinstated;

• approved (20-3-0) TR 01-21 — confirming the nomination of George Tiger to serve the remaining term of Delbert Dunn of the board of commissioners of the housing authority of the Creek Nation of Oklahoma Inc.;

voting no were: **Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Peters**, Okmulgee; **Nichols**, Okmulgee;

• approved unanimously (23-0-0) TR 01-22 — confirming the nomination of Kennan Phillips to serve on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election board;

• approved (13-10-0) TR 01-23 — confirming the nomination of June Mustari to serve on the gaming operations authority board;

voting no were: **Marshall**, Okfuskee; **Smith**, Okfuskee; **Fife**, Okfuskee; **Johnson**, Okmulgee; **McGirt**, Tukvpvtce; **Buck**, Tukvpvtce; **Bible**, Tulsa; **Peak**, Tulsa; **King**, Tulsa; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes;

• approved unanimously (23-0-0) TR 01-24 — confirming the terms of office of the persons currently serving on the election board;

• failed (3-18-2) TR 01-27 — authorizing the principal chief to lend $5 million of permanent fund capital to Bacone College in Muskogee;

voting no were: **S. Pickering**, Creek; **Chupco**, Muskogee; **Little**, Muskogee; **T. Pickering**, McIntosh; **McIntosh**, McIntosh; **Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Hale**, Okmulgee; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Lowe**, Tukvpvtce; **McGirt**, Tukvpvtce; **Buck**, Tukvpvtce; **Bible**, Tulsa; **Peak**, Tulsa; **Hufft**, Tulsa; **Kelley**, Tulsa; **Berryhill**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes;

abstaining were **Peters**, Okmulgee and **King**, Tulsa;

• approved unanimously (23-0-0) as amended NCA 01-36 — authorizing an appropriation for the settlement agreement between the Muscogee (Creek) Health Systems Board and two former employees of the division of health administration;

• approved (21-0-0) NCA 01-74 — amending NCA 99-09 § 104 and §105 subsection B to revise the organizational chart and appropriate funds to be included in the comprehensive annual budget;

There was no vote recorded for **Buck**, Tukvpvtce, and **Hufft**, Tulsa, from this point in the session forward;

• approved (21-0-0) as amended NCA 01-95 — amending NCA 95-95 (establishing guidelines and authorizing tribal funds for scholarships to tribal citizens and repealing NCA 87-70 and NCA 89-06) and appropriating additional funds;

• approved (20-1-0) NCA 01-96 — authorizing a budget modification over 10 percent for the environmental services department;

voting no was **S. Pickering**, Creek;

• approved (21-0-0) NCA 01-98 — authorizing a budget modification over 10 percent for the employment and training program;

• approved (21-0-0) NCA 01-101 — authorizing the expenditure of a "Safe and Stable Families" grant match for children and family services and appropriating the match;

• approved (21-0-0) NCA 01-105— authorizing the expenditure of an Oklahoma Indian Commission energy award in the amount of $1,300 to be used in client services for the social services program;

• approved (21-0-0) NCA 01-106 — authorizing a budget modification for the vision program budget and the expenditure of increase of funds;

• approved (20-0-0) NCA 01-107 — authorizing a budget modification for the American Indian/Alaska Native support centers for the fiscal year 2001 tobacco program budget;

Record reflects that **Lewis**, Okmulgee, was out of his seat and did not vote;

• approved (20-0-0) NCA 01-108 — authorizing a code of conduct for judicial branch judges and employees;

Record reflects that **Lowe**, Tukvpvtce, was out of his seat and did not vote;

• approved (21-0-0) NCA 01-109 — amending NCA 82-30 §§ 101, 102, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 18, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 130, 132, 133, 135, 136, 138, and 207 amending NCA 88-69 RULE 3, 4, 6, 9, 11, 12, 13, and 14, repealing certain sections of NCA 82-30, adding a new evidence code, and repealing NCA 83-50, all relating to judicial procedures, to be codified in title 27 Code of Laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

• approved (21-0-0) as amended NCA 01-110 — establishing a criminal procedure code to be codified in title 14 of the Code of Laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

• approved (19-0-0) NCA 01-111 — authorizing and appropriating funds for honorariums for ceremonial grounds participating in the Council Oak Tree Ceremony and appropriating funds for the Tulsa Creek Indian Community to sponsor the annual Council Oak Tree Ceremony and dinner;

There was no vote recorded for **S. Pickering**, Creek, from this point in the session forward. There was no vote recorded for **Smith**, Okfuskee;

• approved (20-0-0) NCA 01-112 — providing a supplemental appropriation to the Hanna Indian Community Center for the delivery of water;

• approved (20-0-0) NCA 01-113 — appropriating funds for the establishment of a post graduate program;

• approved (20-0-0) as amended NCA 01-114 — authorizing a special appropriation to Shelly Franz for expenses to attend the Pre-Teen America Scholarship and Recognition Program;

• approved (20-0-0) NCA 01-115 — amending NCA 99-20 (The election code) article V, § 5-102 candidates for elective office to be codified in Title 19 of the Code of Laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation; and

• approved (19-1-0) NCA 01-118 — amending NCA 99-20 relating to terms of office to be codified in Title 19 of the Code of Laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

voting no was **T. Pickering**, McIntosh.

In items for consideration the Council:

• approved (16-0-0) as amended TR 01-25 — the maintenance of the privately owned homes program policy and procedures of the housing authority of the Creek Nation of Oklahoma Inc.;

There was no vote recorded for **McIntosh**, McIntosh, and **Lewis**, Okmulgee, and **Bible**, Tulsa from this point in the session forward. There was no vote recorded for **Nichols**, Okmulgee;

• approved (16-1-0) NCA 01-116 — authorizing a special appropriation for the Henryetta Phillies girls softball team;

voting no was: **Lowe**, Tukvpvtce;

• approved (16-0-1) NCA 01-120 — authorizing a special appropriation to a tribal citizen representing the State of Oklahoma in the 2001 Junior Olympics in Hampton, Va.;

abstaining was: **Peters**, Okmulgee; and

• approved (15-2-0) NCA 01-121 — creating an office of security in gaming operations authority board and removing security from the lighthorse administration

voting no were **T. Pickering,** McIntosh and **Kelley**, Tulsa.

Election

continued from page 1

speaker is full time and is paid at the amount of $3,317 monthly ($39,811 annually.) The only benefits Council members receive are payroll deductions for taxes. Council members are authorized to receive expense reimbursements for long distance telephone calls and travel which is associated with the performance of their duties. Council members may receive mileage reimbursements at up to $250 monthly; the speaker has a $500 limit on monthly mileage reimbursement.

The primary election will be held Sept. 22 with the general election on Nov. 3. All enrolled Muscogee tribal members, ages 18 and older, are eligible to vote, but must have valid voter registration to do so. Tribal members who intend to vote at the precincts have until Sept. 12 to register. The deadline for absentee voters to request absentee ballots to vote in both elections was Aug. 29.

Election board staff requests that information be updated regarding: changes of address (changes related to 911 included); name changes; and informing the office of deaths of registered voters.

For more information, call the election board office at (918) 756-8700, extensions 294 or 349.

Church meetings, singings

Oakhurst holding youth rally, singing

OAKHURST — Indian Fellowship Baptist Church is holding a youth rally beginning at 10 a.m., Sept. 15.

The church is holding a gospel singing at 7 p.m., Oct. 20. Supper will be served at 5 p.m.

For more information, call Julie Dunn at (918) 446-6852.

Little Quarsarty schedules church reunion

CROMWELL — Little Quarsarty Baptist Church is holding a church reunion beginning at 10:30 a.m., Sept. 23.

Former and current members are encouraged to attend invited. Those attending are requested to bring a covered dish and old pictures.

For more information, contact (405) 257-8192.

Gospel singing being held at Wetumka

WETUMKA — Wetumka Indian Baptist Church is holding a gospel singing which will begin at 7:30 p.m., Sept. 29.

The master of ceremonies will be the Buck Family.

The church is located one mile south of Wetumka on U.S. Highway 75 and one half of a mile east.

Bemo slates gospel singing in October

BIXBY — Bemo Baptist Church is having a gospel singing beginning at 7:30 p.m., Oct. 6.

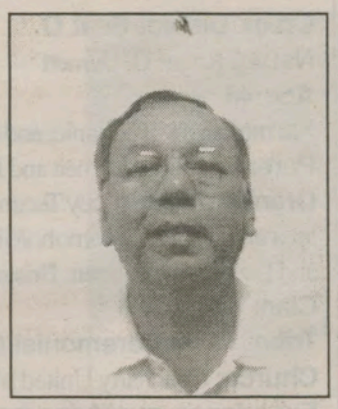
Groups singing include: "Harmonettes and Co." of Ada; "Deliverance" of Konowa; "Proclaim" of Tulsa; and "Higher Ground" of Ft. Gibson.

The master of ceremonies will be Spook Wesley.

The church is located one half of a mile west and one third of a mile south on 131st and Memorial Drive.

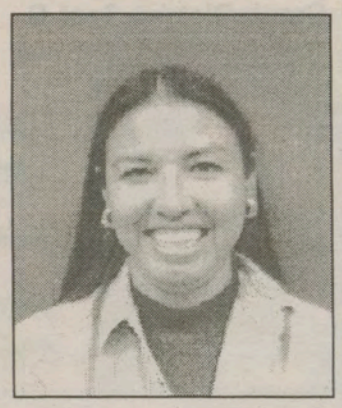
For more information, contact Wesley at (918) 473-2434.

Creek District Seat A



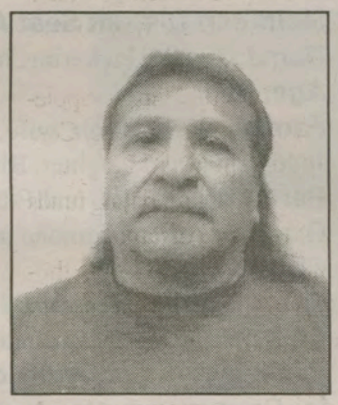
Name: George Tiger
Age: 51
Family: children, Chebon; Gina; Greg; and Chris
Parents: the late Rev. Coody and Lela McNac Tiger
Grandparents: the late Motcy and Susie Tiger and the late Peter and Mary McNac
Clan: Wind
Tribal Town/Ceremonial Ground: Hickory Ground
Church: Yardeka Indian Baptist
Experience qualifying candidate to run for Council: previously served three terms as representative on the National Council; past president and vice president of Haskell Indian Nations University National Board of Regents; chair of Kellyville Indian Community; and member of the Creek Nation Housing Authority Board of Commissioners
Reason for seeking office: An aggressive campaign for new economic development is overdue and must be a priority. More importantly, economic development will provide additional revenues in improving housing, health, education, and programs of the Creek Nation. For too long we have been dependent on our bingo halls in providing funds to the treasury. Federal grant funds are very competitive and must be matched or supplemented by the tribe. My priority as a representative will be to seek economic development and protect our sovereignty. Sovereignty allows the Muscogee Nation government to serve its tribal members and must be protected. Economic development and sovereignty work hand-in-hand and ensures the Muscogee people a brighter future. I strongly believe my experience is a tremendous asset in making decisions that benefit all tribal members.

Creek District Seat A



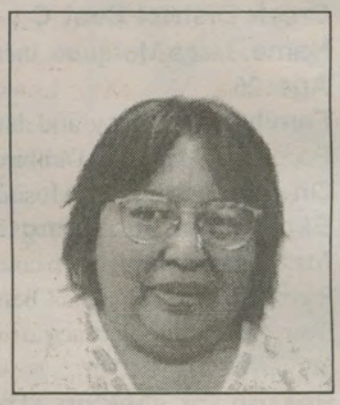
Name: Judy Aaron
Age: 36
Family: husband, Mitchell and daughters, Meagan; eight; Amy, seven; and Emily, four
Parents: Eugene and Carolyn Willie John of Idabel
Grandparents: Maryland and George Willie, Morris; and Betsy and Cornelius John, Idabel
Clan: Deer
Tribal Town/Ceremonial Ground: Green Leaf
Church: Big Cussetah United Methodist Church
Experience qualifying candidate to run for Council: education — bachelor of science in chemistry, Southeastern Oklahoma State University, masters of public health, major in health administration, University of Oklahoma; **professional experience** — quality improvement officer, Clinton Indian Hospital, August 1993 through 1997; and health system administrator, Sapulpa Indian Health Center, August 1997 to present; **community service** — vice chair, Sapulpa Indian Community, January through March 2000; SIC chair, April 2000 to present; parent committee member, Johnson O'Malley and Title IX Program, 1999 to present; **church service** — Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference, Northeast Region Youth Coordinator, January 2001 to present; Big Cussetah United Methodist Church Lay Leader, 2001; certified lay speaker; and annual conference delegate, 1999 through 2001
Reason for seeking office: As an employee and tribal member of the Muscogee Nation, I have worked in the tribal system, watched the Nation's government in action, and met many Creek and Euchee citizens. Their hopes, those working in the system and those in need of the system, are no different than mine for the tribe — to be able to see the Nation serve it's citizen's well, and to succeed as a tribal government. We need to begin a change to responsive government that listens to it's constituents, serves the actual needs of the people at the time of need, and is willing to sacrifice to ensure the future of our government and our tribal members. I have chosen to seek office because I feel a strong need to serve in a broader scope than health care. I have enjoyed my job with the Sapulpa Indian Health Center, and believe we have made progress, but I am willing to change from a place of stability in my life, to create a place of stability for all citizens.

Creek District Seat B



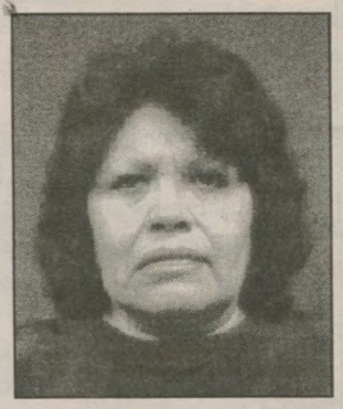
Name: Duke M. Harjo, incumbent
Age: 58
Family: wife, two children, and five granddaughters
Parents: the late Jim B. and Lena Wind Harjo
Grandparents: James and Winey Barnett Wind
Clan: Bear
Tribal Town/Ceremonial Ground: Alabama
Church: High Spring Baptist
Experience qualifying candidate to run for Council: two terms, Muscogee National Council member; one term, Alabama/Quassartee Tribal Town Chief; and four terms, Alabama/

Creek District Seat B



Name: Lucy Carpitcher

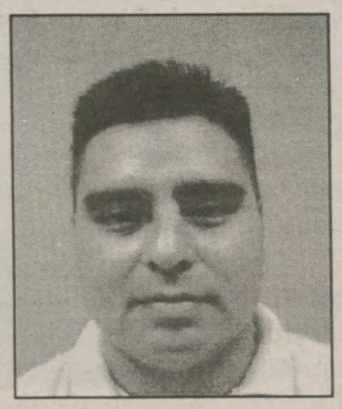
Creek District Seat B
Name: Phyllis Warrington



Creek District Seat C
Name: Roger D. Barnett
Age: 40
Family: wife, Stephanie, and son, Eco Tasahce
Parents: Rachel Barnett and Joseph Barnett, Bristow
Grandparents: Nicey Tecumseh Wilson of Kvncate area and the late Solomon Wilson and the late James and Lizzie Starr Barnett, Bristow
Clan: Wind
Tribal Town/Ceremonial Ground: Kvncate
Church: Concharty United Methodist

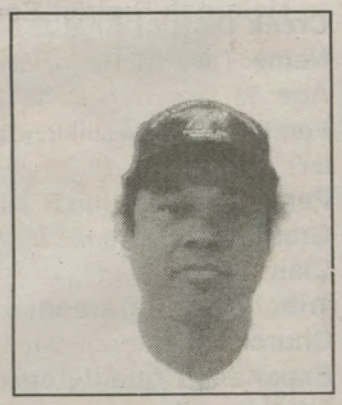
Experience qualifying candidate to run for Council: U.S. Army, three years; seven years of experience in the tribal government system as an employee — worked in higher education; employment and training administration; and judicial branch under three tribal administrations; member of the 10th (1998-99) session of the Muscogee National Council — business and governmental committee member and fact finding committee chair; associate's degree in applied science, Oklahoma State University; senior, Northeastern State University, industrial management and environmental studies; Bristow Indian Community Vice Chair, 2000 to present
Reason for seeking office: I would like to be involved in implementing the following: **cultural preservation** — funding and seeking grants for the establishment of language curriculum and traditional arts/skills programs to reinforce — via tribal Head Start, child development, and community centers — what we should already be teaching and practicing within the home; **elders** — providing daily transportation from and back to their homes so they may fellowship, receive health screenings and meals, and play a major role in tribal language curriculum and traditional arts/skills programs; **health** — improving and increasing health services on a continual basis; and **tribal land base and economic development** — continually seeking out and purchasing optimum lands for development as well as the establishment of an industrial park that will equip the Nation with the capability to pursue manufacturing opportunities, joint ventures, and leasehold arrangements with qualified companies. Ask my former constituents about my performance; I am confident in encouraging you to inquire into my voting and attendance records as a former National Council member as well. I appreciate your consideration — *mvto*.

Creek District Seat C
Name: Jacob Mosquito, incumbent
Age: 26
Family: wife, Misty, and daughter, Alexandria
Parents: Craig and Debbie Mosquito
Grandparents: Joe Mosquito



Experience qualifying candidate to run for Council: leadership courses throughout college; learning what has been passed on to me from my elders; and acquiring knowledge from my last term in office
Reason for seeking office: During my recent term in office I have learned a lot about how our government works and assisted in passing policies and procedures advancing our great Nation. Progress starts within, I believe that my opinion reflects the voice of the Creek County tribal citizens. I know with their support I will have the guidance to make the right decisions. Communication is still a valued priority with me and I am always striving for better communication between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council and the people. I have enjoyed the opportunity to serve the Creek people and I look forward to future opportunities.

McIntosh District Seat A
Name: Tommy Pickering, incumbent
Age: 45
Family: wife, Judith; wife, sons, Sheridan and Judd; and granddaughter, Blue Bird
Parents: James A. and Edna Pickering
Grandparents: Edmond and Sally Burgess
Clan: Sweet Potato
Tribal Town/Ceremonial Ground: Hichitie
Church: West Eufaula Indian Baptist

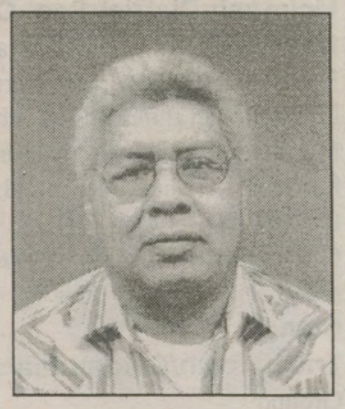


Experience qualifying candidate to run for Council: served on National Council for six terms; served on health board; served on Eufaula Indian Community Board; served as chairman on many various boards on the National Council and community level; and knowledgeable and experienced in all matters of tribal government
Reason for seeking office: I have been asked by Creek community leaders and citizens to continue to represent McIntosh District for the betterment of our citizens. To continue to strive to help improve our way of life in the areas of health, education, and economic development. As I have for the past years representing McIntosh District. I, myself, as a business owner, allows me to make the time to represent the Creek people of this district to represent them so as in a manner to get good results. *Mvto.*

McIntosh District Seat A

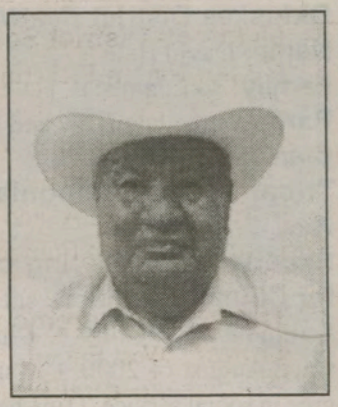
Name: Shelly Crow
Age: 53
Family: husband, John Crow III; children, Leslie Crow Taylor and the late John Crow IV; grandchildren, Morgan and Zachery Taylor; and son-in-law, Mark Taylor
Parents: Everett Walter and Doretha Beaver Stubbs
Grandparents: Hugh and Lucille Irwin Stubbs and Joe Martin and Effie Powers Beaver
Clan: Raccoon
Tribal Town/Ceremonial Ground: Tukvpvtce
Church: Church of Christ
Experience qualifying candidate to run for Council: **tribal experience** — health board, 1989 through 1991; Second Chief, 1992 through 1996; division of health policy analyst, 1996 through 2000; established Crow Consultants and presently on contract as grantwriter for the Choctaw Nation; **education** — registered nurse, Tulsa Community College; bachelors of science in nursing, Northeastern State University; masters of science, Oklahoma University; **private sector** — professor of nursing at Langston University, Northeastern, and University of Tulsa; presently employed as one of 14 state school nurses teaching life skills and prevention through a cooperative agreement with Dustin, Graham, Hanna, and Ryal public schools, funded by the state tobacco settlement; **community service** — president for John Crow IV Memorial Foundation, a 501 (3) C that assists rural Indian students in sports, cultural, and academic programs and awards college scholarships; served on President Reagan's first HIV/AIDS board and Clinton's Health Care Reform Task Force; presently serving on the National-Rural Advisory Board reporting to the U.S. Secretary of Health.
Reason for seeking office: The Muscogean people were once the most respected people in the North American Continent, known for their equal rights and independence, taking care of their own, and fair laws for all. I see many of our citizens, children, and families who need assistance. I would like to be a part of the team who will lead us into this century under our Constitution improving our programs, enforcing our laws, helping our people to reach their potential, and protecting our children and elders who cannot protect themselves.

McIntosh District Seat B



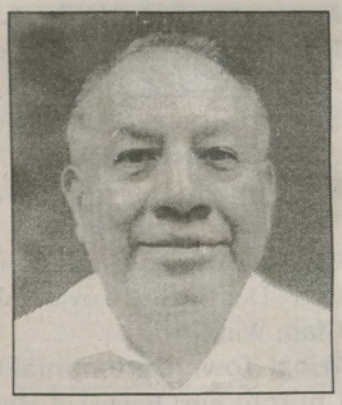
Name: Wilbur C. Gouge, incumbent

McIntosh District Seat C



Name: Thomas McIntosh, incumbent

McIntosh District Seat C



Name: Wilson Bear
Age: 58
Parents: Turner and Emily Bear
Clan: Bear
Tribal Town/Ceremonial Ground: Eufaulachee
Church: Protestant
Experience qualifying candidate to run for Council: past Council member
Reason for seeking office: economic development; education; and health services

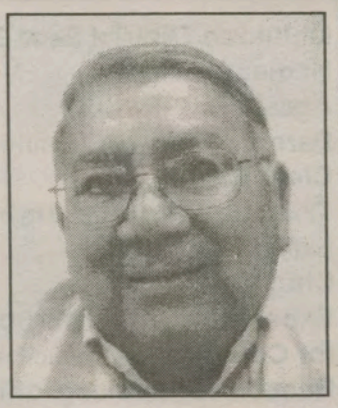
McIntosh District Seat C

Name: Sue Ann Bear Dalgarn
Family: son, Robert Dalgarn; daughter, Sharon D. Franz; grandchildren, Shane, Koby, Shelly Franz; and the late James Lewis Dalgarn
Parents: the late Caesar and Susie Johnson Bear of Eufaula
Grandparents: the late Kizzie Hill Bear, Hanna, and the late Taylor Bear
Clan: Eco
Tribal Town/Ceremonial Ground: Hickory Ground
Church: Baptist
Experience qualifying candidate to run for Council: educated voter; I keep abreast of what's going on within our Muscogee (Creek) Nation; knowledgeability on tribal government
Reason for seeking office: keep constituents informed within district; help people when and where you can; and keep people informed

Muskogee District Seat A

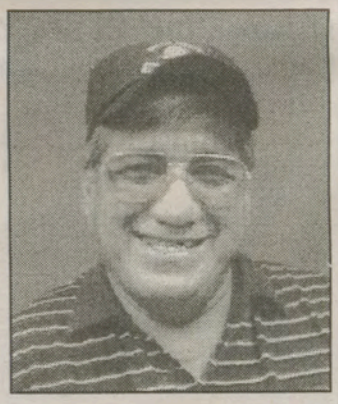
Name: Helen Chupco, incumbent
Family: son, James L. Chupco and daughter, Waukomis Lewis
Parents: the late Rev. Billie and Bessie McCosar Palmer
Grandparents: the late Bunnie and Bettie McCosar
Clan: Sweet Potato
Tribal Town/Ceremonial Ground: Tukvpvtce
Church: United Methodist
Experience qualifying candidate to run for Council: Training — principals of federal grants; contracts for fiscal management; and community development; accomplishments — secretary for election board, 1979; member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution committee which was ratified in 1979; organized Muscogee Indian Community and chartered in 1985; sponsored numerous legislations for Muscogee (Creek) Nation and approved by National Council
Reason for seeking office: To help further economic development program plans toward self-sufficiency, protect tribal sovereignty, listening to problems and complaints from Creek citizens, and channel these to appropriate administrative personnel of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation programs.

Muskogee District Seat B



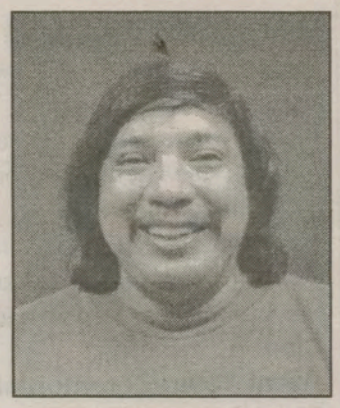
Name: Harley Gene Little, incumbent
Age: 70
Family: spouse, Geraldine; daughter, Jeannette Askins; and sons, Harley and Kendall Jay
Parents: Buster Little, Bearden, and Nona "Blackie" Douglas, Nuyaka
Grandparents: Sam Little and Hepsy King and Harry Douglas and Lovie Mikey
Clan: Wind
Tribal Town/Ceremonial Ground: Nuyaka
Church: First Baptist of Muskogee
Experience qualifying candidate to run for Council: former Bureau of Indian Affairs superintendent of Creek Nation, retired BIA administrator; former director of the division of community services for the Creek Nation; Korean War veteran and army officer; graduate degrees from Northeastern State University and the University of Oklahoma; and previous terms as the district representative of the Muskogee District
Reason for seeking office: To strive and balance the relationship between our three levels of government and to make individuals accountable for the expenditure of funds and services to the citizens of the Creek Nation.

Okfuskee District Seat A



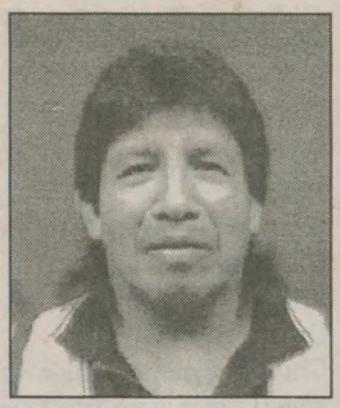
Name: David Hale
Family: son, James B. Hale
Parents: the late Billy and Lucy Coker Hale
Clan: Wind
Tribal Town/Ceremonial Ground: Fish-Pond
Experience qualifying candidate to run for Council: At the present time, I am going to Seminole State College, I have been attending since August of 2000. I would like to get a degree in social service. I finished a wielding course in Tulsa in 1972. I have also finished a basic police course, from the Oklahoma Department of Corrections in McAlester in 1979.
I have worked from April to August 2001 at the Creek Nation Complex. I quit so that I could go back to college. I have worked as: housekeeper, one year; gas station attendant, one and a half years; gate hand, four years; road construction, four years; building attendant, seven years; and I worked at the Oklahoma State Penitentiary for six years. While at the prison, I was promoted to the rank of sergeant.
Reason for seeking office: If elected to the Council, I would like to see the workers get a raise in pay. Increase the school clothing allowances. I would like to see the Lighthorsemen have college degrees. I wish more people would get out and vote. Like the young people. Because they are the next generation to run the government. You, the people, are the only one who can make the changes in tribal affairs. By using your voting right!

Okfuskee District Seat A



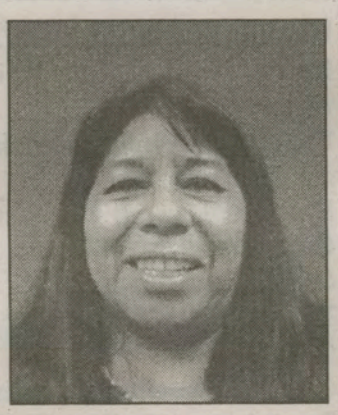
Name: Timothy H. Wind
Age: 39
Family: wife, Nena Wind; son, Timothy R. Wind; and daughter, Jessica D. Wind
Parents: Jesse and Zelma Yahola Wind
Grandparents: Jesse and Lillie Squirrel Wind and Lyman and Miley Haynes Yahola
Clan: Bear
Tribal Town/Ceremonial Ground: Big Cussetah
Church: High Spring Baptist Church
Experience qualifying candidate to run for Council: 23 years in the fire service, serving as fire chief; city council, four years; internationally certified fire service instructor; highly developed entrepreneurial skills; head of an Emergency Medical Services, eight years; experienced in forming and maintaining corporations; experienced in patents and trade marks; experienced in construction; experienced as a field Engineer; and experienced in the oil field
Reason for seeking office: I believe that as being a servant of the people of the great Mvskogee Nation, I can bring past skills to work for the people. I believe strongly in the preservation of the culture of our people, while also expanding in the many endeavors that Creek Nation has undertaken, as well as finding new enterprises to keep the Nation strong and on the forefront of today's world. With my experience, through the grace of God, I have many things to contribute to our people. In the fire service, I've learned to work directly with people in their time of need, and to look ahead at they're safety and well being. Serving as head of an emergency medical service, I have insight to the medical needs of our people, the elders as well as the youth of our tribe. As a city councilman I developed the city housing authority, which gave me a chance to first hand deal with the housing need and address many issues that face our housing industry. With this knowledge in hand I feel I can contribute greatly to the Creek Nation housing program and work together to develop it more efficiently. Being an instructor for the fire service supports my thoughts for education. Providing a means for education serves a way for our people to prosper in this fast moving world that surrounds us. By seeking higher education we develop a highly educated Nation.

Okfuskee District Seat A



Name: Phillip W. Coon Jr.
Age: 49
Family: wife, Sandra, children, William, Shawnna, Sasha, Shaun, and Phillip III
Parents: Phillip W. Coon and Lula M. Coon
Grandparents: Topley Coon, Jamima Yarbrough, and George and Bessie West
Clan: Alligator
Tribal Town/Ceremonial Ground: Nuyaka
Church: Greenleaf
Experience qualifying candidate to run for Council: four years regular service; Navy, two years; Army, two years regular service; retired 23 years ANG Education and leadership through military background; state and tribal foster care; mentorship program adopted through state and Oklahoma Army National Guard
Reason for seeking office: I would like to improve the needs of all tribal citizens, young and the elder. Through more funding toward health, education and social services.

Okfuskee District Seat A



Name: Nancy S. West Watson
Age: 47
Family: daughters, Angie and Alison, grandchildren, Mariah, Autumn, and Deven
Parents: Calvin and the late Agnes Fixico West
Grandparents: the late Willie Fixico; the late Sarah Holahta; the late George and Bessie Anderson West
Clan: Deer
Church: Prairie Springs Indian Baptist
Experience qualifying candidate to run for Council: served one term on National Council; certified social services director; active in Indian education over 25 years; and experienced in legislative research and proposals
Reason for seeking office: during my first term on the National Council, I promised to work hard for the people and with the people. I kept that promise. I feel that we need representatives that are actively involved with the people. Someone who will address these issues and seek to resolve them, for the people, not for personal gain. I feel that by working together, we can be more progressive and productive with our present assets. I can be that representative, that is why I have chosen to seek this office.

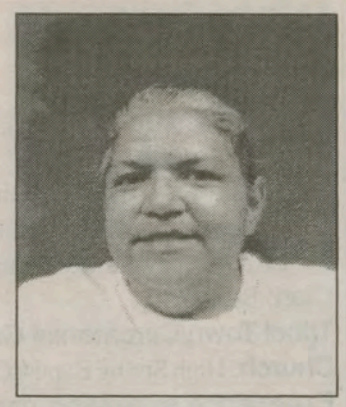
Okfuskee District Seat B

Name: H. Mae Jackson
Family: husband, Bobby Jackson and son, Phillip Jackson
Parents: Phillip and Anna Monday Tiger
Grandparents: March and Lizzie Randall Monday and George and Hepsie Jimboy Tiger
Clan: Bear
Tribal Town/Ceremonial Ground: Fish Pond
Church: Skyview Baptist Church
Experience qualifying candidate to run for Council: Okfuskee Representative on National Council for three terms; charter member of Oklahoma City Creek Association; Oklahoma City American Indian Training and Employment Program; Oklahoma City Indian Clinic; Native American Center, Oklahoma City, 15 years; and presently employed with the Creek Nation Housing Authority as Okemah low rent counselor; several years of experience in advocating for Indian rights to local, state and national representatives including testifying before Congress
Reason for seeking office: Conflict of interest, no interest in citizen/employee rights, apathetic attitude toward enforcement of legislative laws, and lack of sensitivity toward tribal constituents has run rampant within our legislative and executive branches. Government must be returned to the people and ethics re-established within our tribal representation. If elected I will be there for the citizens; not for any special interest groups or myself.

Okfuskee District Seat B

Name: Lena Wind Marshall
Age: 48
Family: husband, Famous Marshall; son, Famous Marshall Jr.; and daughter, Sunnie Marshall
Parents: the late James Wind Jr. and Barbara Wind
Grandparents: Winey Barnett Wind and James Wind
Clan: Bear
Tribal Town/Ceremonial Ground: Alabama/ Quassartee
Church: family affiliation with High Spring Baptist; attend Church of the True Vine
Experience qualifying candidate to run for Council: 13 years experience in tribal affairs, consisting of the development of tribal Indian Child Welfare programs; successful applications of grants for childcare programs; held administrative positions and currently supervise the fostercare/adoptions program within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Children and Family Services; I work closely with the tribal court system, attorneys, and many tribal families; developed/coordinated the Inter-Tribal Summer Youth Gatherings (conference); worked in the private sector as a public school teacher and managed a community development block grant for the City of Okemah; experience in Johnson O'Malley programs, as liaison and coordinators; actively participated within the Okemah Indian Community Center, 19 years; and lifelong resident in the community area; appointed as chairperson for the OIC Center Museum/Cultural committee; previous member of the Muscogee-Seminole-Wichita Baptist Association Assist Team. I have taught/ coordinated classes for over 13 years for the Indian Falls Creek Baptist Assembly and held the vice chair position for the Indian Falls Creek Baptist Assembly. My bachelor of science degree is from Northeastern State University and my master's degree is in education from Oklahoma City University.
Reason for seeking office: I believe that our community has such potential and that continued economic development must be pursued. I want to be an honest, accurate voice for the people in this area. I want to address various areas of need regarding our elderly, various medical concerns, and opportunities for the tribal youth. I want to be instrumental in promoting a positive relationship for the community.

Okfuskee District Seat C

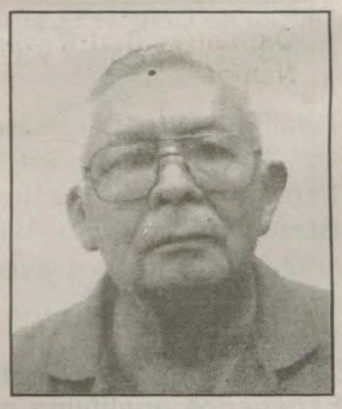


Name: Wynema Judy Roberts
Age: 50
Family: sisters, Patsy Pigeon, the late Patty Factor and Mary Leitka and brothers, Sonny, Roy, and Cainey Roberts Jr.
Parents: Stella and the late Cainey Roberts
Grandparents: the late Duard and Pardly Douglas and the late Kendel and Mary Roberts
Clan: Alligator
Tribal Town/Ceremonial Ground: Nuyaka
Church: Nuyaka Indian Baptist
Experience qualifying candidate to run for Council: experience in tribal government and knowledge of tribal laws; four years on National Council; and working with communities and with tribal citizens
Reason for seeking office: I feel as if the present Council has become very self-serving, and if elected I want to get more involved in the needs of the Creek citizens. I feel the people should have their opinions heard by their representatives so they can vote what is best for the people.

Okfuskee District Seat C

Name: Sandra "Sandi" J. Golden
Parents: Minnie Jeffley and Eugene Golden
Grandparents: Fannie McNac and Teewee Jeffley
Clan: Deer
Tribal Town/Ceremonial Ground: Nuyaka
Church: Springfield Methodist
Experience qualifying candidate to run for Council: I have 18 years of education, 15 years of administration and management of tribal and federal programs and six years in planning and development; including a junior college and three major universities. Through combined work experience and education, I have learned much about government systems, writing legislation and supervising program operations. As a member of a number of boards and committees, I have a good understanding of the legislative process and how it should function. In my work ethic, quality and quantity have always been fundamental. I continue to look to the elders for wisdom and knowledge and I believe in being a healthy role model for young people. I do not smoke and I do not drink alcohol.
Reason for seeking office: I have a genuine concern about the direction of our Nation. With termination shadowing every action, this government must establish efficient operating systems as models for business ventures as a competitor and to prevent extinction. We must stop fighting over a dollar; quit giving away three and stop allowing ten to go by! Specialty groups and certain individuals appear to benefit from resources while others continue to be in need. A lot has been said about priorities, but elderly, educating our children, churches, ceremonial grounds and communities can all benefit from economic development when it is handled in the right way. However, any development or resource investment should not be at the expense of the people. We must be pragmatic and turn a dollar more than once in more than one community. I believe it is important to establish and maintain guidelines that will protect our most precious resources. Our children must be protected and our elderly must be cherished. An elected official is a role model who is not above the law; a spokesperson for the people; and someone who has a responsibility to represent all Creek people and act in the best interest of the Nation. I am prepared for that challenge.

Okmulgee District Seat A



Name: David B. Lewis Jr., incumbent
Age: 67
Family: wife, Lillie and children, Ronnie, Richard, Diane, and Sharon
Parents: David B. Lewis and Sally Jacobs
Grandparents: Jeannetta Jacobs
Clan: Bird
Tribal Town/Ceremonial Ground: Hickory Ground
Church: West Eufaula Indian Baptist Church
Experience qualifying candidate to run for Council: Four consecutive terms of office as an Okmulgee District Representative; bachelor's degree in social work, East Central University, Ada; associate's degree in sociology, Conners State College, Warner; U.S. Marine Corp veteran, Korean War; traditional medicine man; and bilingual.
Reason for seeking office: The duty of representing the people has been the guiding force for my political goals. It is a duty that I do not take for granted, as evidenced by my having the best attendance record for regular sessions of the National Council. I have only missed two sessions of National Council meetings since first being elected in 1992. I have authored many legislative bills and initiated programs that target all members of the tribe. Specifically, I was one of three members of the volunteer economic development committee that spearheaded the truck plaza ventures in Okmulgee and Muskogee. I initiated the tribal tag program for our motor vehicles and most recently, the new graduate student scholarship program. The future holds many more opportunities for our Nation Opportunities for increasing the graduate program, tribal business endeavors such as our own tribal funeral homes and increased health programs are only a few of the goals that I envision. I am seeking reelection so that I may continue to develop programs and tribal business opportunities for all our people. There is more work to be done and I respectfully seek your support. *Mvto.*

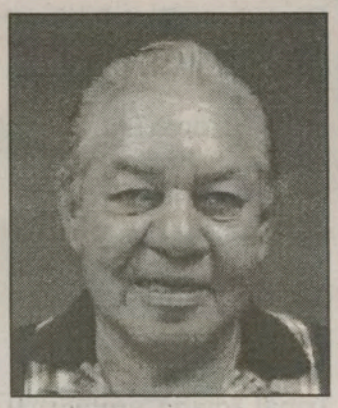
Okmulgee District Seat A

Name: Estherlene Gee
Age: 58
Family: son, Randall Gee, daughters, Debra and Quannah Gee
Parents: the late Freeda and Roley Buck
Grandparents: the late Mary and Daniel Buck and the late Kogee and Stephen Harjo
Clan: Wind
Tribal Town/Ceremonial Ground: Kialegee
Church: Belvin Baptist Church
Experience qualifying candidate to run for Council: high school, Haskell Institute; bachelor of science in education, Northeastern State University; master of education, counseling, NSU; licensed professional counselor, state license; teacher, Head Start program, San Jose, Calif., five years; counselor-teacher, Okmulgee Public Schools, 25 years; contract counselor, Okmulgee County Youth Services; Eufaula Dormitory School Board Member, 1995-1997; and treasurer, Okmulgee Creek Nation Senior Citizens, 2001
Reason for seeking office: As a retired educator with 25 years of experience, I realize the importance of the position as a National Council member and will pledge to provide greater accountability of the National Council to the citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. First, I will explore ways in which the Nation's housing program and health care system can be better improved in order to provide safe and quality housing and health care for the Nation's citizens. Second, I will work to establish and maintain economic stability, and seek ways in which the Nation can increase its economic growth. Third, I will strive to improve the educational opportunities and services offered by the Nation to its youth from early childhood to higher education. Fourth, I will work to promote the preservation of the Nation's culture, language, and traditions. Finally, I will work to improve and streamline communication between the members of the National Council, the Nation's tribal governmental departments, and tribal citizens by promoting community forums to discuss issues of concern to tribal citizens.

Okmulgee District Seat B

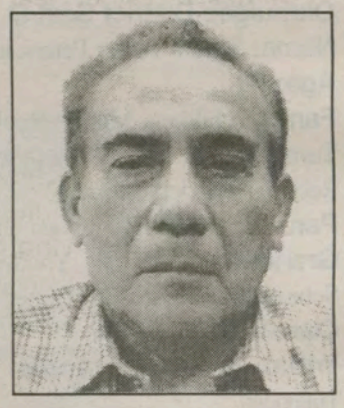
Name: Rita Williams
Age: 56
Family: husband, Barton; son, Shawn, daughter-in-law, Nicole; and two granddaughters, Alaysia Opvnv and Mehenwa Fotenetka
Parents: Tom Berryhill and the late Blanche Pakoska (Bland) Berryhill
Grandparents: the late Noah Pakoska (Bland) and the late Evelyn Martin Bland and the late Joseph "Little Joe" and Annie Kanard Berryhill
Clan: Alligator
Tribal Town/Ceremonial Ground: Kasitah
Church: Honey Creek Methodist
Experience qualifying candidate to run for Council: I worked for the tribe for a number of years in the following positions: patient advocate for the health system; elderly nutrition program; and Head Start administrative assistant. I feel my knowledge of the internal programs and the needs of the clients qualifies me to better assist the citizens. I am familiar with the roles of the three branches of government and the standing committees of the National Council. My involvement with the grassroots Indian community and their activities keeps me in touch on a personal level. Serving as a state board member for the League of Women Voters of Oklahoma keeps me in touch with issues at the state and national level.
Reason for seeking office: I would like the opportunity to better understand the direction of the Nation — to know current issues that are priority with the Council which lends to factual information to the citizens. I want to work toward a tribal economy that will continue to put young families to work. If elected I will hold the office of National Council District Representative accountable to all constituents and not a select few. I want to encourage citizens, on a larger scale, to become involved in the democratic process by becoming better informed about their government at the tribal, local, state, and national level. If elected I intend to be an active representative always working towards the vision that is set before us and for the common good of our families, friends, and citizens.

Okmulgee District Seat B



Name: Keeper J. Johnson, incumbent

Okmulgee District Seat C

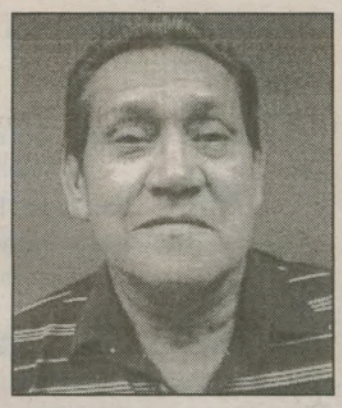


Name: George B. Almerigi
Age: 67
Family: spouse, Shirley A. (McCosar)
Parents: Lawrence Almerigi and Pauline Lowe
Grandparents: John Lowe and Liza Pakoska of Schulter
Clan: Alligator
Tribal Town/Ceremonial Ground: Cussetah
Church: Belvin Baptist
Experience qualifying candidate to run for Council: Almerigi has a degree in business administration and a law degree. His experience includes 15 years of work and service to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. This experience includes four years as second chief, three terms as a district representative, two years as general counsel to the Nation and three years as assistant attorney general. Almerigi is past chairman of the Wilson Indian Community and is presently chairman of the Okmulgee Indian Community. He serves on the board of directors of several local community organizations such as Okmulgee Family Resources, YMCA and the homeless shelter. He serves on the tribal employment security commission and the Constitutional Amendment Committee. This past year he has served as consultant on legislative actions which have been adopted and become a law of the Nation.
Reason for seeking office: Almerigi's experience and legal knowledge are valuable assets he brings to the legislative body of the Nation. His commitment to service to tribal members include a concern with health, education and the social welfare of the Nation's citizens. Special areas of concern with tribal affairs include greater community services and accountability. He can bring to the Council a business style which includes a sense of ethics and a sense of balance to the legislative process. He believes the future of the Nation is dependent upon the proper use of our resources including human, land and financial. He would advocate creating a Council web site where information on all phases of the legislative process including voting record and attendance of Council members would be available to the people.

Okmulgee District Seat C

Name: Richard D. Ellis
Age: 81
Family: two sons, Richard D. Ellis Jr. and Ricky H. Ellis and one daughter, Deborah P. Ellis
Parents: Doolie and Nellie Bruner Ellis
Grandparents: Billy and Adeline Bruner
Clan: Turtle
Tribal Town/Ceremonial Ground: Lochapoka
Church: Concharty United Methodist
Experience qualifying candidate to run for Council: retired from the U.S. Army and graduated from Oklahoma State Technical School in furniture upholstery and auto trim
Reason for seeking office: I want to be able to vote on the changes being made to the Constitution and the tribal laws of the Creek Nation. *Mvto.*

Okmulgee District Seat C

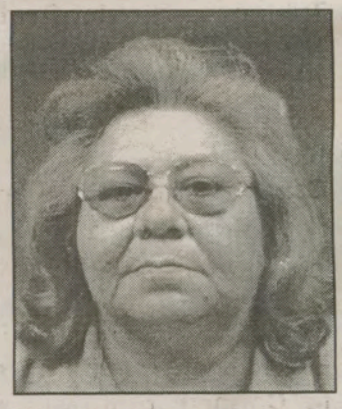


Name: Anderson Hale, incumbent
Age: 57
Family: wife, Norma; son, William; and granddaughter, Anna
Parents: the late Billy and Lucy Coker Hale
Grandparents: the late Gibson and Emma Coker and the late Jasper and Maggie Hale
Clan: Beaver
Tribal Town/Ceremonial Ground: Fish Pond
Church: Snake Creek Indian Baptist
Experience qualifying candidate to run for Council: have served six years as a National Council member for Okmulgee District
Reason for seeking office: education — need more fund for this program due to increase in tuition and everything else related to education; **economic development —** have not had any job development for three years. Need to do away with trade and commerce board so we can get a economic development; and **housing:** need to hire a new executive director who will work for the tribe, not against us.

Okmulgee District Seat D

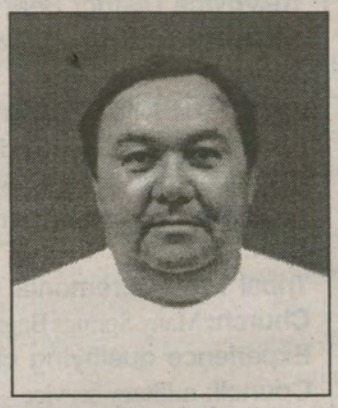
Name: Sandra Turner Peters, incumbent
Age: 57
Family: children, Marion Reuben Peters, 27, Justus Turner Peters, 25, Elizabeth Anne Peters, 23, and Rebecca Yonder Peters, 22
Parents: Reuben Riley and Fannie Mae Cook Turner
Grandparents: Polly Yonder Cook and Thomas Sebastian Cook and C.J. Turner III and Ella Blundell
Clan: Wind
Tribal Town/Ceremonial Ground: Arbeka-Tulladega
Church: Trinity Baptist Church, Morris
Experience qualifying candidate to run for Council: National Council, two years; community services and cultural committee, two years; health board, two years; federal program, human development department/Johnson O'Malley, seven years; fact finding committee, National Council, two years; Housing Task Force Committee; Weyerhaeuser Grant Award Committee, eight years; bachelor of arts degree from Northeastern State University; graduate studies, education psychology; professor of music, choral direction, Bacone College; studied brokerage; insurance license with major insurance firm
Reason for seeking office: I would like to run again for this second term because there are major issues to address for our Nation. I am working on a merit system that I would like to see in place that would help our tribal employees, housing issues, I believe, that need to address the area of new homes, rehabilitation on older homes, acquisition homes for those in need, health care concerns that range from diversifying third party billing money to greater care for our people. My constant desire is to communicate these concerns to our people who not only live in our Nation, but those who work the programs for our Nation. I would like to address areas of good management and yet have great compassion for our citizens. I want to retain our trained employees and give them hope by offering them a future to stay with our Nation. Thank you for your help.

Okmulgee District Seat D



Name: Peggy Lyda
Age: 61
Family: husband, Recy; daughters, Sherry Guffey, Cindy Brown, and Tara Allen; and three grandchildren
Parents: the late Albert and Bernice Harjo Thomas
Grandparents: John and Peggy Pigeon Harjo and John and Roseanna Scott Thomas
Clan: Raccoon
Tribal Town/Ceremonial Ground: Wewoka
Church: Wetumka Indian Baptist
Experience qualifying candidate to run for Council: National Council Representative, two years, serving on community service committee, fact finding committee, and Creek Nation Foundation Board. I am presently employed with the OK Work Activity Center in Okmulgee for the developmentally disabled in the position of workshop supervisor. My job duties are maintaining the overall operations of the work center with regards to the county, state, and federal regulations.
Reason for seeking office: I understand how the Muscogee (Creek) Nation tribal government functions, and I have ideas for positive changes that will benefit our people. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation tribal government can be a driving force for change if its members are aggressive, independent, and willing to stand for what they believe. I am aware of our need for fair representation and I will work to assure that all major issues such as, term limits are brought to a vote of the citizens. With your support and my commitment we can achieve these goals. I ask you for your vote. With your help, we can make our government work for us.

Okmulgee District Seat E

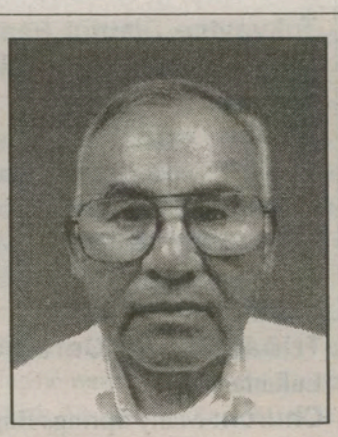


Name: David D. Nichols, incumbent
Age: 45
Family: wife, Ginger; two sons, David and Jason; and two grandchildren
Parents: Bob Harjo and Joan Fixico Nichols
Grandparents: William and Edda Harjo and Joe and Nargie Fixico
Clan: Raccoon
Tribal Town/Ceremonial Ground: Tukvpvtce
Church: Salt Creek Methodist
Experience qualifying candidate to run for Council: fifth term serving as National Council representative
Reason for seeking office: To promote growth and unity within our tribal government.

Tukvpvtce District Seat A

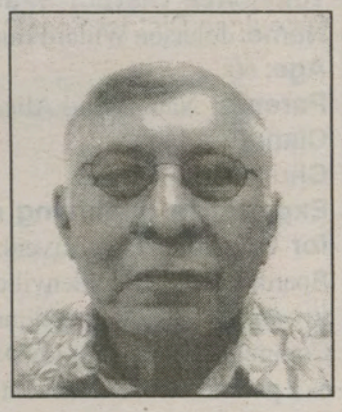
Name: Dwayne Lowe, incumbent
Age: 48
Family: wife, Janice; four daughters, Dawn, Leslie, Angela, and Stephanie; and one son, Pacer
Parents: the late George and Esther Cain Lowe
Grandparents: Comma Lowe and Suzanna Long, and Roman Cain and Addie Ahaisee
Clan: Sweet Potato
Tribal Town/Ceremonial Ground: Tukvpvtce
Church: Yeager Mission Methodist
Experience qualifying candidate to run for Council: seeking sixth term as Council representative.
Reason for seeking office: To work toward better health care, improvement of education programs and to bring and economic venture to the district.

Tukvpvtce District Seat A



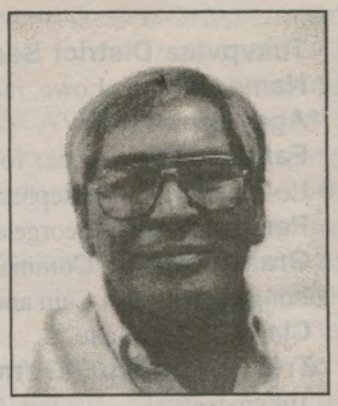
Name: David S. Yargee
Age: 60
Family: wife, Ruth and daughter, Samochee E. Barnet, daughter
Grandparents: the late Samochee and Malinda Harjo Barnet
Tribal Town/Ceremonial Ground: Thlopthlocco
Church: Sand Creek Baptist
Experience qualifying candidate to run for Council: tribal town council; neighborhood organization; inter-tribal council; veterans advocate; and tribal veterans representative
Reason for seeking office: To insure true representation, one that will uphold oath of office. To serve the majority, not self serving.

Tukvpvtce District Seat B

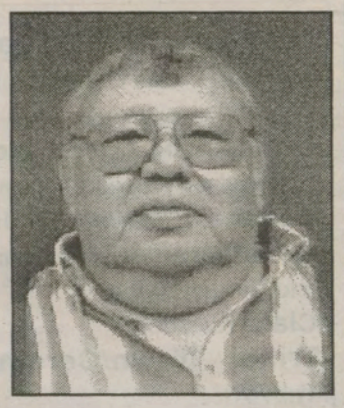


Name: Thomas Yahola
Age: 62
Family: Phyllis, Thomasene, Asi, Leah, Lenora, Angela, Melinda, Opothle, and Beth
Parents: the late Lyman and Bertha Yahola
Grandparents: Willie and Annie Yahola and Ella and Sunda Taylor
Clan: Deer
Tribal Town/Ceremonial Ground: Tahlahvse (Cromwell)
Church: Montesoma Baptist
Experience qualifying candidate to run for Council: have served three and one half terms on the National Council — served as the Second Speaker and Speaker of the National Council; presently in leadership roles as commander, Mvskoke Nation Honor Guard, manager, Muscogee Nation Realty Trust Services, mekko, Tahlahvse Ceremonial Ground (Cromwell), and Trail of Tears National Advisory Board
Reason for seeking office: To continue to serve/represent the Nation, communities, and citizens on vital issues. To continue to be present at the monthly district community meetings with reports and other information. To be innovative and propose legislation that will be beneficial for the Nation. I stand on my past record in my service to you and our Nation.

Tukvpvtce District Seat B
Name: David Jimboy

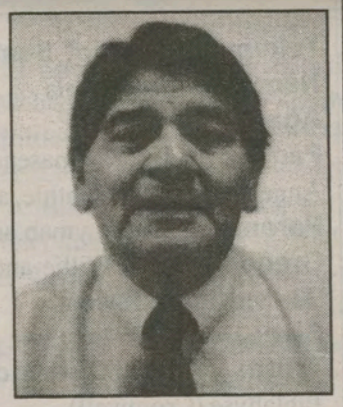


Tukvpvtce District Seat B
Name: James R. McGirt, incumbent
Age: 67
Family: son, John R. McGirt
Parents: Moses McGirt and Emily Cornell McGirt
Grandparents: Willie and Manie Lovett Cornell and Jim and Annie Larney McGirt
Clan: Bear
Tribal Town/Ceremonial Ground: New Tulsa
Church: Many Springs Baptist



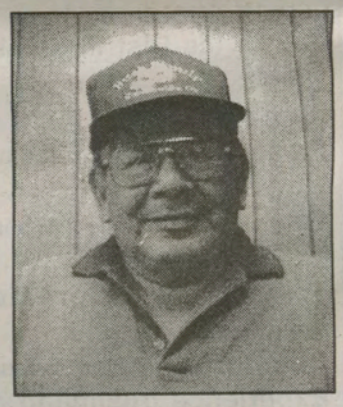
Experience qualifying candidate to run for Council: military service — 1st Radio Company, 2nd Marine Division as an NCO; following graduation and commissioning from flight school, served with VMA-121 3rd Marine Air Wing as a single-engine jet pilot; **life experience** — was employed in software contract management for McDonnell-Douglas Aircraft for over 10 years, as a branch manager, was responsible for the performance of more than 100 personnel in support of all military and commercial model aircraft manufactured by the company; was president and CEO of an all-Indian owned corporation which operated a national training center under contract with the Department of the Interior, had responsibility for over 80 people in three corporate offices. The training provided guaranteed employment for successful graduates with NCR, the FAA, Xerox, and other national private firms. No other Indian program has equaled that record. Additionally, the firm provided specialized organizational and management training under contract for other agencies such as DHUD and many western tribes. Currently serve on the business and government committee of the National Council, the codification committee, the Constitutional Amendment Committee, and served as ex *officio* to the gaming board.
Reason for seeking office: The focus of my efforts in the current session has been the strengthening of tribal sovereignty and an emphasis on the need for viable business development. I sponsored legislation which acquired property to guarantee that a tribal town would be protected in the conduct of its affairs, and at the same time, was responsible for the acquisition of more property in this term than has been purchased in the last 10 years. I would like to continue that effort in the next term.

Tukvpvtce District Seat C
Name: Johnson Willard Buck
Age: 60
Parents: Nathan and Alice McCosar Buck
Clan: Bird
Church: Baptist



Experience qualifying candidate to run for Council: Twin Rivers Community Action Board, one term; Holdenville Indian Community, two terms; Davis Correctional Facility Employee Committee, one term; USDA Food Distribution as a private mechanical contractor; and National Council, five terms
Reason for seeking office: I would like to serve on the National Council to work on issues concerning elderly care, health, housing, education, and anything else that will provide a better life for all Muscogee (Creek) Citizens.

Tukvpvtce District Seat C
Name: Nathan Buck Jr., incumbent
Age: 64
Family: wife, Mary Lou; sons, Robin and Mitchell; and daughters, Anita and Michelle
Parents: Nathan and Alice Buck
Grandparents: Bunny McCosar and Martha Anderson
Clan: Bird
Tribal Town/Ceremonial Ground: Eufaulagee
Church: Many Springs Baptist

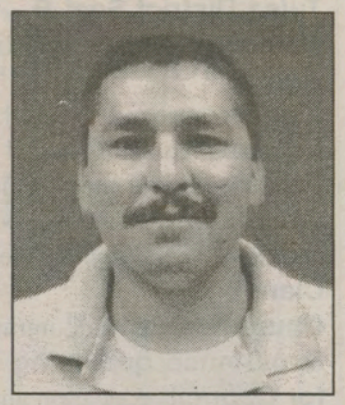


Experience qualifying candidate to run for Council: served as Councilman in Holdenville area for two years; served as board member of Holdenville Indian Community; and comprehensive training in writing tribal constitution
Reason for seeking office: My interests and support for the elderly health and nutrition. Good roads and transportation. Education for all children and also youth programs. All of these programs affect all tribal members.

Tukvpvtce District Seat C
Name: Lola Fields
Age: 54
Family: husband, Rev. Billy W. Fields; three children, James and Beth Bell, Kenny and Rebecca Hill, Billy and Leah Fields; and seven grandchildren
Parents: Eliza Beaver Yargee and Sandy Fish
Grandparents: Rev. Daniel and Polly Larney Beaver and Peter and Lola Fish
Clan: Bird
Tribal Town/Ceremonial Ground: Tukvpvtce
Church: Faith Baptist Church

Experience qualifying candidate to run for Council: understand and speak Creek; licensed nursing home administrator; state certified classroom teacher; and volunteer for Oklahoma Advocate in Monitoring
Reason for seeking office: I have a vision of a progressive government from which all Tukvpvtce citizens would have the opportunity to benefit from. My experience in the nursing home industry leads me to believe our own nursing home can be a reality. An industry that would provide employment opportunities for citizens with various licenses, certification, skills, and training. I envision job opportunities for the Tukvpvtce citizen as a "preferred applicant" for employment and not to be recognized as an "Indian preference" applicant. We don't want to lose our educated, trained, gifted, and skilled citizens to other tribes so they may grow as a prosperous and progressive tribe. We want to look back on the progress we have made as Tukvpvtce citizens. As an educator in the public school system, I envision the need we have to help our children to be successful students and grow to become productive Tukvpvtce citizens. We depend on our children to plan for our future. If our elders, children, and grandchildren are to have any opportunities, we must create them today. While I oppose no individual, I realize the opportunities available that can be achieved with a progressive mind, and an educated effort and a committed desire to represent the Tukvpvtce citizens. Therefore, I ask for your vote to let me represent you, the Tukvpvtce citizen, on the Muscogee (Creek) National Council.

Tukvpvtce District Seat C
Name: Lewis Turner Yahola
Age: 34
Family: wife, Jennifer Prince, sons, Christopher Flanagan, Travis Yahola, and Terrance Yahola
Parents: Amanda Martinez and step-father, Harry Martinez
Grandparents: the late Lucille Harjo
Church: Although I don't attend regularly, I am a member of Salt Creek Baptist Church in Wetumka



Experience qualifying candidate to run for Council: I have no prior political experience. However: I do want to be an active National Council representative. I would like to see better communication between the Council representatives and the Creek people of the Tukvpvtce area.
Reason for seeking office: I feel that the people of the Tukvpvtce area do not have good communication with the National Council representatives. My main reason for seeking office is to help the elderly and the youth. The elderly got us to this point and the youth are our future. That doesn't mean all the people in between will be forgotten. I just want to serve the people of the Tukvpvtce area to the best of my abilities.

Tulsa District Seat A
Name: Larry Bible, incumbent

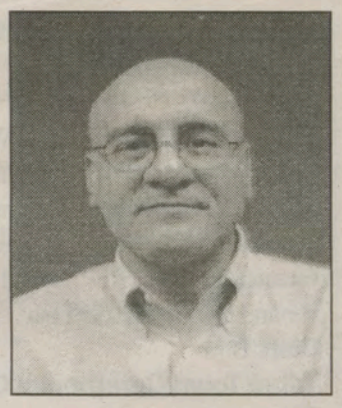
Tulsa District Seat B
Name: Mary Sue Peak, incumbent
Age: 60
Family: married; three children; and six grandchildren
Parents: Rev. William and Mary Harjo Alexander
Grandparents: Robert and Abby Alexander and Lewie and Susie Harjo
Clan: Deer
Tribal Town/Ceremonial Ground: Greenleaf
Church: Indian Fellowship Baptist Church

Experience qualifying candidate to run for Council: employee of Claremore Indian Hospital for 25 years, retiring in 1999; elected to Creek National Council, September 1999; serving on business and governmental committee and fact finding committee; and appointed by Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver to the advisory board of Claremore Indian Hospital, January 2000 to present
Reason for seeking office: I am seeking reelection for Tulsa District, Seat B. I have an excellent attendance record for committee and Council meetings. My concerns in regard to education, health and housing issues have been top priority. Your vote will allow me to continue to promote these issues for the benefit of our people.

Tulsa District Seat B

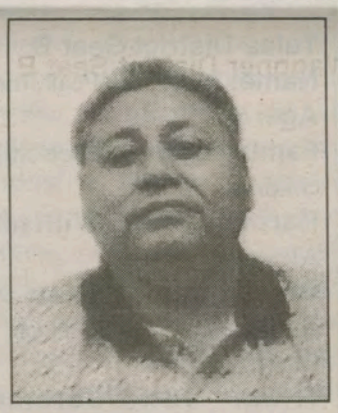
Name: Cherrah De'Ann Ridge-Quiett
Age: 23
Family: husband, Russell, and children, Tafv, E'tya, and Russell Quiett II
Parents: Eddie and Debbie Ridge
Grandparents: the late Watie and Helen Ridge and the Ella and the late Bennie Bender
Clan: Bird
Church: All Tribes Community Church
Experience qualifying candidate to run for Council: education and life experience are my key to qualifying items: born and raised in Tulsa; attended Booker T. Washington High School; graduate of Tulsa Community College, associate of arts in sociology; graduate of University of Oklahoma, bachelor of arts in social work and master of social work; and social worker for department of human services child welfare
Reason for seeking office: To help bridge the gap between Tulsa area citizens and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. To assist Creek citizens obtain services they need.

Tulsa District Seat B



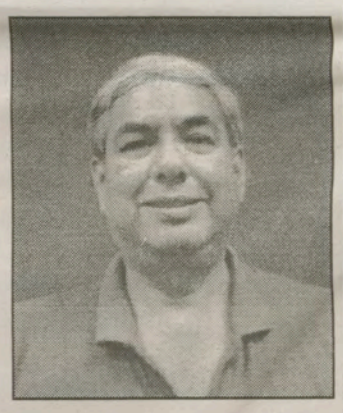
Name: Richard "Rick" E. Wilde
Age: 49
Family: son, Richard Jason Wilde; daughter, Melanie Daniell Wilde; granddaughter, Elizabeth Wilde; and grandson, Alexander Wilde
Parents: Katherine N. Bible Wilde Jones
Grandparents: the late Dave Bible and the late Leona Grayson
Clan: Bird
Tribal Town/Ceremonial Ground: Broken Arrow
Church: Springtown Methodist
Experience qualifying candidate to run for Council: associate's degree from Tulsa Community College, 1993; attended Northeastern State University; received certified legal assistant certification, 1997; employed at the law firm of Armstrong & Lowe; chairperson of Tulsa Creek Indian Community, 1994; vice chairperson of Tulsa Creek Indian Community, 1995; elected treasurer of Tulsa Creek Indian Community, 2001 (resigned position); and tribal court advocate for the Gila River Indian Reservation, Sacaton, Ariz., 1997
Reason for seeking office: I am a straight forward individual and feel that I would be a strong voice for the Creek citizens of the Tulsa Community and the Muscogee Nation. I am aware that the education, health and economic development are priorities of the Tulsa Community and the Muscogee Nation as a whole. I will approach each situation with an open mind and render a vote for what is best for the Tulsa Community and the Muscogee Nation. I will especially be aware of the concerns of the citizens of the Tulsa Community. I make no promises nor assurances to any one individual, however, I will proceed to protect the Tulsa community's interests and the Muscogee Nation's interests to the best of my ability. Please get out and vote.

Tulsa District Seat C



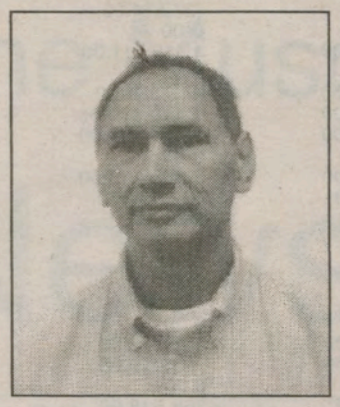
Name: Earl W. King, incumbent
Age: 61
Family: wife, Marian; daughter, Melanie D. Tarr; and sons, Wyley and Mekko
Parents: the late Rev. David and Annie King
Grandparents: Henry and Amanda Micco
Clan: Deer
Tribal Town/Ceremonial Ground: Nuyaka
Church: Montesoma Baptist
Experience qualifying candidate to run for Council: six years Council representative; bachelor of science degree, Oral Roberts University; vice president of Tulsa community, two terms; board of directors, Claremore Indian Hospital; board of directors, Tulsa Indian Clinic; U.S. Navy, honorable discharge; and 35 years aircraft experience, American Airlines.
Reason for seeking office: I am seeking the office of Council representative to promote a spirit of cooperation and unity within the Creek Nation and remain committed to the same progressive ideals for housing, education, health, community development, culture and social services. Helping elder citizens in a positive manner will be the focus of my efforts.

Tulsa District Seat C

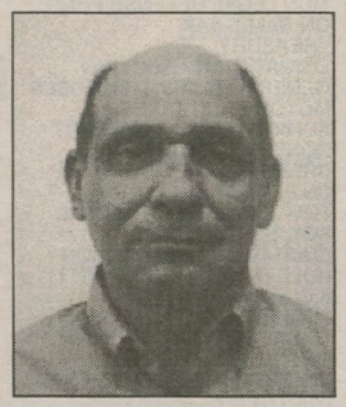


Name: Ronald Allen Cleghorn
Age: 51
Family: single
Parents: Irene Jacobs and the late James G. Cleghorn
Grandparents: John Alexander and Nancy Tea Jacobs
Clan: Sweet Potato
Tribal Town/Ceremonial Ground: New Tulsa
Church: First Baptist Church, Tulsa
Experience qualifying candidate to run for Council: I am a former National Council representative from the Tulsa District. I currently serve on the board of directors for Tulsa Creek Indian Community. I graduated from Tulsa Memorial High School and attended college. I closely monitor the progress of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation on both the community level and the Nation as a whole. Serving our community and its members has been both an educational and rewarding experience. I feel I have made an impact in their lives as they have in mine through mutual cooperation.
Reason for seeking office: I choose to run for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Council, Seat C, at the urging of many Muscogee (Creek) citizens who reside in the Tulsa District. These citizens feel they have been denied visibility and accessibility from the incumbent. When information and emergency help is needed, my opponent relay's erroneous rhetoric and is often incommunicado to their wants and needs. In that same regard, my opponents attendance at community meetings is dismal at best. My platform includes being an accessible servant to Tulsa District Creeks and Yuchis enabling me to be responsive to their informational requests and input. I will sponsor and support any legislation that is in the best interests of the community and the Nation. I have no hidden agendas. I believe in promoting our tribe, its citizens, and obtaining grants for education, economic development, and health. Programs that utilize our elder's knowledge to maintain our traditions and culture need to be expanded. I humbly ask for your support and vote on Sept. 22. May god bless you and yours. *Mvto.*

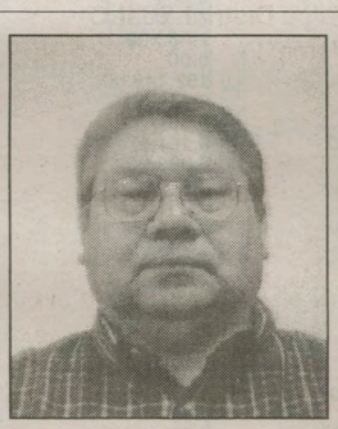
Tulsa District Seat D
Name: Robert L. Hufft, incumbent



Tulsa District Seat E
Name: Jess F. Kelley, incumbent
Age: 54
Family: wife, Barbara; son, Lance; and daughter-in-law, Jennifer
Parents: the late Mary Lee Charley Day and Jess A. Kelley
Grandparents: the late Lemuel Charley and Ruby Mingo Parker
Clan: Bear
Tribal Town/Ceremonial Ground: Locvpokv Tribal Town
Church: Haikey Chapel Methodist
Experience qualifying candidate to run for Council: having served as a National Council representative for eight years on the community service and tribal affairs committee; a past member and chair person of the Creek Nation Election Board
Reason for seeking office: My desire to continue to serve as your Tulsa District representative to provide information to tribal members so they are informed of services and benefits available to them.



Wagoner District Seat A
Name: Richard Berryhill, incumbent



Wagoner District Seat B
Name: Barbara Gillespie, incumbent
Age: 63
Family: two sons, Larry and Gary Gillespie
Parents: the late Mose Childers and Violet Williams Childers Freeman
Grandparents: Walter Williams, Alice Burgess Williams, Annie Gibson Childers McIntosh, Benjamin Childers
Clan: Sweet Potato
Tribal Town/Ceremonial Ground: Locvpokv
Church: First Baptist and Davis Chapel
Experience qualifying candidate to run for Council: four terms, National Council; real estate sales and management; service station owner; program assistant for Oklahoma State University Extension Service; Koweta Indian Community officer, various positions
Reason for seeking office: To seek ways for better enforcement of tribal Laws. Establish guidelines for level of need as a priority in housing, health care and education. Seek better communication in all branches of government.

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a division of Ink Impressions, Rio Ranch, N.M.

Editor' note: The candidates' profiles are published as they were submitted and have been edited for space, spelling, punctuation, and in adherence to Associated Press and *The MNN* styles only. Candidates were given a 300 word limit. Because additional space was available, text exceeding the word limit was published to fill the text blocks. Candidate profiles are published in the order in which they filed chronologically.

Program	Receipts	Budgets	Encumbered	Expended	Balance
MCN LEGAL DEFENSE FUND	11,511.00	238,155.00	0.00	(27,574.00)	265,729.00
CN SALES TAX	68,716.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TREASURY	1,161,206.00	84,666.00	44,933.00	1,116,211.00	(1,076,478.00)
LITIGATION & LOBBYING	5,371.00	57,709.00	0.00	0.00	57,709.00
GENERAL TAXES & LICENSES	864,282.00	1,483,774.00	30,996.00	842,388.00	610,390.00
MOTOR FUEL TAXES	988,961.00	2,114,997.00	29,546.00	1,410,630.00	674,821.00
ADMINISTRATION/INDIRECT	2,638,383.00	2,109,433.00	13,534.00	1,501,154.00	594,745.00
CONSUMER LOANS	17,135.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CREEK NATION BINGO	3,542,044.00	3,618,776.00	39,939.00	2,363,103.00	1,215,734.00
CN PERMANENT FUND	2,616,821.00	357,271.00	2,268.00	172,389.00	182,614.00
TOM JOHNSON PERM FUND	127,542.00	0.00	0.00	30,277.00	(30,277.00)
BOK SETTLEMENT	12,255.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CULTURAL PRESERVATION	996.00	4,000.00	0.00	555.00	3,445.00
HOLDENVILLE COMMUNITY	10,521.00	8,000.00	0.00	6,742.00	1,258.00
A.G. EDWARDS	(62,843.00)	0.00	0.00	13,921.00	(13,921.00)
CODIFICATION	101,148.00	100,000.00	0.00	0.00	100,000.00
TRIBAL BUDGET	819,601.00	1,190,866.00	10,000.00	530,721.00	650,145.00
MOTOR VEHICLE	1,076,866.00	1,206,955.00	40,415.00	723,019.00	443,521.00
HEALTH EDUCATION	15,983.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
WIA-TITLE I	366,579.00	548,156.00	1,038.00	368,538.00	178,580.00
SUMMER YOUTH '00	52.00	0.00	0.00	52.00	(52.00)
WIA-SUMMER YOUTH	89,455.00	107,351.00	4,830.00	91,662.00	10,859.00
WIA-SUMMER YOUTH	83,380.00	541,288.00	2,417.00	88,599.00	450,272.00
WELFARE TO WORK	109,328.00	189,244.00	0.00	109,566.00	79,678.00
WELFARE TO WORK '99	51,763.00	121,690.00	0.00	52,606.00	69,084.00
HUD-MUSKOGEE TRAVEL PLAZA	95,917.00	702,621.00	446,906.00	255,715.00	0.00
HUD-NAHASDA '00	12,644,319.00	16,000,912.00	33,773.00	1,715,377.00	14,251,762.00
HUD-ROSS '01	10,127.00	250,000.00	0.00	10,127.00	239,873.00
HUD-DRUG ELIMINATION	10,135.00	560,277.00	0.00	10,135.00	550,142.00
HUD-NAHASDA '98	5,603,263.00	6,411,986.00	362,500.00	1,367,861.00	4,681,625.00
HUD-NAHASDA '99	8,955,340.00	8,876,015.00	11,789.00	1,775,516.00	7,088,710.00
LIHEAP '00	30,711.00	33,027.00	0.00	30,711.00	2,316.00
FAMILY PRESERVATION '00	141,506.00	191,763.00	8,628.00	140,571.00	42,564.00
CCDBG '00	357,346.00	433,463.00	4,376.00	357,684.00	71,403.00
HEAD START '00	680,493.00	927,452.00	104,932.00	680,493.00	142,027.00
TITLE IV-B '00	109,295.00	168,342.00	10,339.00	110,530.00	47,473.00
FAMILY VIOLENCE '00	119,987.00	218,571.00	10,657.00	120,493.00	87,421.00
LIHEAP '01	83,489.00	131,906.00	1,142.00	83,570.00	47,194.00
FAMILY PRESERVATION '01	1,429.00	196,898.00	0.00	5,548.00	191,350.00
CCDBG - DISCRETIONARY	593,706.00	1,360,819.00	7,440.00	598,015.00	755,364.00
CCDBG - MANATORY	1,265,467.00	2,309,711.00	54,017.00	1,297,866.00	957,828.00
HEADSTART '01	857,117.00	1,755,020.00	53,151.00	862,123.00	839,746.00
TITLE IV-B '01	25,181.00	239,501.00	0.00	27,739.00	211,762.00
CCDBG '99 MANDATORY	93,941.00	115,866.00	5,768.00	93,941.00	16,157.00
FOOD DISTRIBUTION '01	232,189.00	414,000.00	4,780.00	240,785.00	168,435.00
FEMA INCOME	128,626.00	127,685.00	0.00	0.00	127,685.00
JOM EARLY CHILDHOOD	230.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
JOHNSON O'MALLEY	9,266.00	46,000.00	14,776.00	8,107.00	23,117.00
MCN CHILD DEV. CENTER	343,483.00	220,000.00	353.00	95,662.00	123,985.00
USDA HEADSTART REIMBURSE	79,999.00	76,919.00	5,484.00	48,194.00	23,241.00
EUFAULA DORM ACTIVITY FUND	25,957.00	22,453.00	0.00	5,395.00	17,058.00
SENIOR SVCS PROG. INCOME	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00
ELECTION BOARD	641.00	950.00	0.00	0.00	950.00
COMMUNICATIONS REVOLVING	1,185.00	6,992.00	0.00	2,585.00	4,407.00
CITIZENSHIP BOARD	11,446.00	7,621.00	13.00	5,001.00	2,607.00
FOOD DIST. PROG. INCOME	1,654.00	1,000.00	0.00	963.00	37.00
EXXON-ENERGY	1,300.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
COMMUNITY DEV. PROG. INC.	254.00	1,000.00	0.00	335.00	665.00
LIGHTHORSE PROG. INCOME	1,534.00	5,800.00	0.00	2,780.00	3,020.00
SELF-GOVERNANCE INTEREST	22,236.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PROVIDING OPP. WITH ALGEBRA	191,825.00	241,388.00	1,956.00	192,146.00	47,286.00
DOE-LIBRARY SERVICE BASIC	4,000.00	4,000.00	121.00	2,473.00	1,406.00
DOE-LIBRARY TECH GRANT	2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00	0.00	2,000.00
SELF-GOVERNANCE COMPACT	5,538,609.00	5,178,277.00	55,689.00	3,161,571.00	1,961,017.00
JOM-EARLY CHILDHOOD '00	4,475.00	4,475.00	0.00	4,383.00	92.00
JOHNSON O'MALLEY '00	310,712.00	310,065.00	2,985.00	260,783.00	46,297.00
DOI-ENVIRN CLEAN-UP	0.00	24,750.00	0.00	0.00	24,750.00
EUFAULA DORM '00	1,548,176.00	1,513,103.00	30,827.00	625,472.00	856,804.00
TRANSPORTATION IMPROV.'00	1,335.00	56,394.00	0.00	1,780.00	54,614.00
JOM EARLY CHILDHOOD '01	14,098.00	13,995.00	0.00	0.00	13,995.00
JOHNSON O'MALLEY '01	970,695.00	964,448.00	277.00	299,892.00	664,279.00
LAMAR ROAD	197,600.00	200,000.00	0.00	197,600.00	2,400.00
IRR SPECIAL PLANNING	26,068.00	32,589.00	0.00	26,067.00	6,522.00
KELLYVILLE ROAD	0.00	5,000.00	0.00	0.00	5,000.00
LITTLE CUSSETH CHURCH RD	1,039.00	160,000.00	0.00	1,038.00	158,962.00
OKEMAH SCHOOL ROAD	0.00	650,000.00	587,400.00	0.00	62,600.00
THEWARLE CHURCH ROAD	0.00	250,000.00	0.00	0.00	250,000.00
PORTER ROAD	0.00	500,000.00	341,268.00	0.00	158,732.00
OLD BIXBY ROAD	0.00	917,202.00	0.00	0.00	917,202.00
EQUIPMENT POOL	338,702.00	338,702.00	0.00	338,702.00	0.00
KELLYVILLE PROJECT	550,821.00	4,417,933.00	27,200.00	550,821.00	3,839,912.00
EUFAULA DORM '97	204,513.00	195,846.00	0.00	1,042.00	194,804.00
EUFAULA DORM '98	12,594.00	12,300.00	0.00	9,584.00	2,716.00
JOM EARLY CHILDHOOD '99	430.00	430.00	0.00	430.00	0.00
EUFAULA DORM '99	461,813.00	449,322.00	1,000.00	296,363.00	151,959.00
TRANSPORTATION IMPRO '99	1,889.00	20,781.00	0.00	1,889.00	18,892.00
MONTEZUMA PROJECT	68,983.00	145,504.00	42,800.00	68,983.00	33,721.00
CHILDREN'S ALLIANCE	14,987.00	14,987.00	3,765.00	6,556.00	4,666.00
WATER QUALITY	13,215.00	22,941.00	0.00	13,515.00	9,426.00
TRIBAL RESOURCES (COPS)	1,290.00	2,552.00	0.00	1,290.00	1,262.00
VICTIMS ASSISTANCE	16,909.00	40,000.00	21.00	16,909.00	23,070.00
JUVENILE DELINQUENCY	855.00	20,000.00	34.00	7,820.00	12,146.00
VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN	2,717.00	161,207.00	0.00	2,734.00	158,473.00
DRUG COURT	41,426.00	87,585.00	0.00	42,274.00	45,311.00
EPA	66,468.00	192,595.00	882.00	67,433.00	124,280.00
MUSKOGEE TRAVEL PLAZA	2,817,116.00	2,750,000.00	2,338,810.00	411,190.00	0.00
COMMUNITY CENTERS PROJ	4,640.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TRAVEL PLAZA ENTERPRISE	741,175.00	0.00	0.00	2,750,000.00	(2,750,000.00)
TRIBAL AGRICULTURE PROG.	3,175.00	4,000.00	0.00	144.00	3,856.00
LIGHTHORSE SERVICES	277,012.00	314,723.00	700.00	228,610.00	85,413.00
MCN FLAGS & ETC	1,067.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
ROADS EQUIPMENT POOL	534,743.00	93,000.00	49,029.00	26,643.00	17,328.00
C.N. EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	27,157.00	0.00	0.00	5,248.00	(5,248.00)
C.N. TAXES & FRINGE	28,750.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
NEIL CAMPBELL SCHOLARSHIP	63.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
ROAD FORCE ACCOUNT	341,059.00	676,730.00	16,868.00	363,433.00	296,429.00
TRIBAL- REAL PROP & FAC.	1,546,213.00	2,677,903.00	195,599.00	1,083,065.00	1,399,239.00
TRIBAL- PROPERTY & SUPPLY	44,441.00	110,797.00	239.00	53,862.00	56,696.00
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS	178,060.00	63,855.00	0.00	375,926.00	(312,071.00)
SELF-INSURED HLTH FUND	1,209,948.00	0.00	0.00	1,168,812.00	(1,168,812.00)
C.N. FOUND. SCHOLARSHIP	3,396.00	0.00	0.00	1,730.00	(1,730.00)
EUFAULA DORM SCHOLARSHIP	24.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTALS	**65,622,108.00**	**79,739,280.00**	**5,058,210.00**	**32,016,594.00**	**42,664,476.00**

Muscogee (Creek) Nation quarterly financial statement

Quarter ending June 30, 2001
Prepared by the office of the controller

In accordance with National Council Act 88-70, section 112, as amended by NCA 89-37, the following information for the period ending June 30, 2001 discloses the receipts, budget, encumbrances, expenditures, and balance for all funds under the control of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

The **receipts** are dollar amounts received for the period ending June 30, 2001. The figures include, but are not limited to, federal dollars received on grants or contracts, interest earned during the quarter, and revenues generated by the tribe. The total dollars spent represent the amount spent to date for the second quarter ending June 30, 2001.

The **budget** figure represents the amounts approved in the comprehensive annual budget.

The **encumbered** amounts include figures derived from outstanding purchase orders at the end of the year.

Expended amounts state the total amount that has been spent for each department, within that fund.

The **balance** figures reflect the net available for each department at the end of June 30, 2001.

Any questions regarding this report may be directed to the office of the controller at (918) 756-8700, ext. 250.

The Muscogee Nation News

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Voters fill 10 of 26 National Council seats

OKMULGEE — Ten of the 26 Muscogee (Creek) National Council seats have been filled as a result of the Sept. 22 primary election.

Of the 22 incumbents filing for office:

- nine were unopposed;
- five were victorious;
- three were defeated; and
- five are opposed in runoffs.

The following accounts for total absentee and precinct ballots cast. (I) indicates incumbent; bolded names indicate candidates in runoffs.

Voter turnout low

OKMULGEE — Registered tribal voters participating in the Sept. 22 primary election numbered at 2,598 — out of

see **VOTER**..., page 9

please see **ELECTION**..., page 10

photo by Gerald Wofford

Muscogee Nation's capital city mourns with the rest of the country — Okmulgeans have placed stuffed animals, bows, flowers, and messages on the Creek Nation Council House Museum fencing.

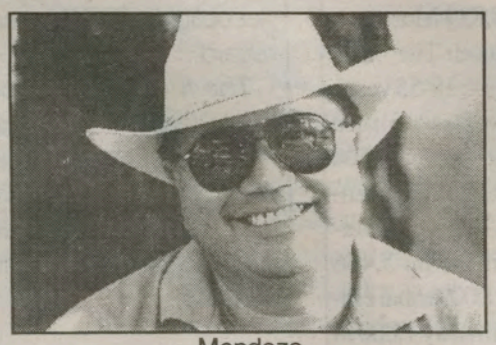
Muscogee People

Talent and life experience fortifies tribal citizen with ability to be successful writer

by Gerald Wofford

Soon the world will take notice of the exploits of Native American veterans with the Nov. 9 release date of the MGM-produced movie "Windtalkers."

The great wartime achievements of Native Americans are no secret to Native Americans. "Windtalkers," a story about the Navajo Codetalkers of World War II, should serve as only one example: despite horrible treatment by the government, American Indians still answered the call to duty and defended the country.



Mendoza

One Muscogee who has known about it and lived it is Vincent Mendoza. In 1995, Mendoza wrote "Son of Two Bloods," a book about his cultural upbringing and military experiences in the Vietnam war.

Mendoza's book was greatly received, winning the North American Indian Prose Award in Chicago, Ill. in 1995.

Mendoza was born and raised in Tulsa into the Raccoon Clan. Mendoza's mother, Martha Mae McIntosh, was born to Newman and Annie McIntosh and raised in Hichita. Newman was the founding pastor of Okmulgee Indian Baptist Church.

From June of 1966 to February of 1970, Mendoza served in the U.S. Marine Corps during the height of the Vietnam war. After being honorably discharged, Mendoza would, as the book describes, go through a

please **MENDOZA**..., page 10

Child care accepting applications for school clothing

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Child Care will begin accepting requests for applications for school clothing assistance on Oct. 15.

To be eligible:

- students must be enrolled members of the Muscogee Nation;
- students must be enrolled in grades kindergarten through 12;
- students in grades nine through 12 must provide proof of school enrollment;
- household income must be within income guidelines;
- parent[s], guardian[s], or primary caregiver[s] must provide one month's income verification (i.e., check stub or a copy of the first page of 2000 income tax return). If unemployed, a notarized statement must be submitted;
- if the applicant is not the parent, but is acting on the parent's behalf, documentation in the form of a custody order or a notarized statement — from the parent giving the applicant permission to apply on behalf of the child[ren] — must be provided; and
- applicant must submit copies of each child's

please see **CLOTHING**..., page 10

Letters to the editor

Issue taken with children and family services

Editor:

I am looking for support and assistance from those who have been or are family foster parents working with Muscogee (Creek) Nation Children and Family Services.

They begged me to be a family foster parent for a child who had numerous behavioral problems and they promised to help me with any resources I might need, including training — but they did not. When I complained, I received subtle threats of moving my child even though there was exceptional progress.

One day my child was taken with the assistance of the tribal police. I was given the reason that I was a "bad parent." The child was put in a children's home for six months and now in a non-Indian home for almost a year. No one can help me get this child back or help me get a visit.

If this happened to me, I am certain it happened to someone else and I know how badly it hurts. A child does not have to come from your body to be yours. I am having a really bad time dealing with the loss of my child. I really miss my kid.

I would like individuals that have experienced something similar, or know someone else who has, to contact me by writing: S.G., Rt. 1 Box 1011, Weleetka, OK 74880. I would like these individuals to include their name, address, and a telephone number. There is no need for each of us to suffer alone.

S.G., Weleetka

Editor's note: "S.G." requested that her full name not be published in order to keep the identify of her former foster child confidential. Because of this request, the writer's full name is not published.

Hanna officer appreciates supplies donations

Editor:

On behalf of Hanna Indian Community members, I want to thank all individuals and groups that contributed to our recent school supplies donation drive.

I would like to extend our appreciation to the Creek Nation Senior Citizens of Okmulgee for their significant contribution to our drive.

Naomi Harjo, Hanna

Editor's note: Harjo is the reporter for Hanna Indian Community.

Student thanks tribal leaders, family for support

Editor:

I would like to express my appreciation to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation for their contributions that made it possible to enhance my world history studies in Europe during the summer.

I would also like to thank Chief R. Perry Beaver, Second Chief A.D. Ellis, and Council Representative Keeper Johnson for their support and encouragement. I want to express my gratitude to my family and extend a thank you to my aunt, Bennie Beaver GossMan, who was my chaperone.

I am better prepared to preserve and share our Muscogee culture, by providing a comparative basis of traditions, for future generations. *Mvto.*

Tony Padilla, Flagstaff, Ariz.

"Henryetta Phillies" thank Council for vote

Editor:

On June 30 the National Council approved legislation that assisted five Indian softball players in going to nationals in Oklahoma City in July.

I, Geronimo Tecumseh, head coach, and assistant coaches Monroe Burgess Jr. and Craig Gobin, players, and parents of the "Henryetta Phillies" 10 and under fastpitch girls softball team, want to express our appreciation to each National Council Representative that approved this legislation.

We want to especially thank Okmulgee District Representative Sandra Turner Peters for sponsoring the bill. Her helpfulness, guidance, and support it was much appreciated.

The "Henryetta Phillies" are in their second year of fastpitch. In 1996, we began as Charlie's Angels in tee-ball and in 1997 began as "Henryetta Phillies." We have qualified to Nationals in Ponca City, Ft. Smith, Ark., Fort Worth,

please see **LETTERS**..., page 10

Second opinion

by Second Chief A.D. Ellis

God Bless America! We have heard that expression many, many times since Sept. 11. As first Americans, I think we all treasure our native country to a somewhat greater extent than others. To all Americans who have suffered, our hearts and prayers are with you.

Our tribal primary election was held last month and the voter turnout was extremely low. Only about 18 percent of the approximately 14,000 registered voters voted. I wish our people would take a more positive interest in selecting our tribal leaders. The general election is scheduled for early November.

There is a never-ending source of complaints coming into my office about numerous problems and I welcome these. Only by knowing can we correct and address these problems. Many people ask me if I am the second chief and then ask what my name is. I immediately know they are not familiar with tribal government, but that's my job.

Our new housing authority building is under construction next door and, hopefully, will be completed next May. The Muskogee travel plaza is set for a completion date of December 2001. Plans for the new Bureau of Indian Affairs building in Muskogee are moving along and construction will probably begin around the first of next year.

A few tribal statistics of interest: total population, 50,873; original allottees, 99; full-bloods, 1,861; half-bloods, 3,974; and quarter-bloods, 6,100. This leaves 38,839 Muscogee citizens who are less than one-fourth blood. The break down on full-bloods by age is: 0-17 years, 32; 18-55 years, 932; and 55-110 years, 961. These numbers won't match because the breakdown is one year old. There are 6,500 elders over 60 years of age. There are nine nutrition centers serving over 12,000 meals per month. Registered voters number at 13,684; absentee voters make up 5,466 of this amount. There are approximately 1,000 tribal employees in the Okmulgee area with approximately 1,800 in the Muscogee Nation.

I hope this month's article develops interest into tribal affairs for citizens. I would like to hear from you; if your in Okmulgee, drop by my office. *Mvto.*

August District Court filings

Protective Orders:

- Walter Lewis Jr. vs. Irene Lewis
- Georgie McNac vs. David D. Foster

Criminal Misdemeanor:

- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Richard Kevin Kaniatobe
  - Count 1: battery
  - Count 2: resisting arrest
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Jeremy J. Van Woudenberg
  - Count 1: Larceny

Civil/Small Claims:

- Wells Fargo Financial vs. Karen Grayson
- Beneficial Oklahoma Inc. vs. Benita Tiger
- Philip Pearl vs. Marie Bruner

September District Court filings

Protective Orders:

- Jeanetta Hill vs. Mark Dobbs
- Loretta Jumper vs. Cordell D. Jumper Sr.
- Tiny Bigpond vs. Kevin Kaniatobe
- Frank Scott vs. Sandra L. Lewis

Divorces:

- Pamela Beartusk vs. Russell Wayne Jim

Civil/Small Claims:

- Royal Finance vs. Sheila Nelson, small claims
- Royal Finance vs. Lydia Brown, small claims
- Royal Finance vs. Rosie Berryhill, small claims
- Service Coll. Assoc. vs. John and Carolyn Wentzel, foreign judgement

please see **COURT FILINGS**..., page 10

The Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to ***The Muscogee Nation News***, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of every month.** ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Standard Class A from Okmulgee, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

Stephanie Barnett, managing editor
Gerald Wofford, photography
Denise Jacobs, page layout
Jennifer Taryole, circulation

Muscogee National Council overview

OKMULGEE — The following consists of actions of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council conducted at: a July 24 special session; the July 28 quarterly session; and the Aug. 25 regular session.

July 24 special session

Absent was **David Nichols**, Okmulgee District and **Larry Bible**, Tulsa District.

Speaker **Wilbur Gouge**, McIntosh District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

In Council business it:

• approved unanimously (23-0-0) National Council Act 01-138, appropriating funds to **Ashley Deerinwater** to attend the national softball tournament in Beaumont, Texas;

voting yes were (representatives listed by district): **Duke Harjo**, Creek; **Jacob Mosquito**, Creek; **Sheridan Pickering**, Creek; **Thomas McIntosh**, McIntosh; **Tom Pickering**, McIntosh; **Helen Chupco**, Muskogee; **Harley Little**, Muskogee; **Famous Marshall**, Okfuskee; **Bruce Smith**, Okfuskee; **Bill Fife**, Okfuskee; **David Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Keeper Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Anderson Hale,** Okmulgee; **Sandra Turner Peters**, Okmulgee; **Dwayne Lowe**, Tukvpvtce; **James McGirt**, Tukvpvtce; **Nathan Buck,** Tukvpvtce; **Mary Sue Peak**, Tulsa; **Earl King**, Tulsa; **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa; **Jesse Kelley**, Tulsa; **Richard Berryhill**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; and **Barbara Gillespie**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes;

• approved unanimously (23-0-0) as amended NCA 01-147, authorizing a special appropriation to fund the parents of **Holly Watashe** to attend her graduation ceremony in San Bernardino, Calif. on Aug. 18, 2001. Watashe, the daughter of **Ben Watashe** of Kellyville and **Sylvestine Franklin** of Stroud graduated from the first National Indian Youth Police Academy; and

• approved unanimously (23-0-0) NCA 01-149, authorizing a special appropriation to **Gloria R. Jobe** to attend the Triple Crown National Softball Tournament in Steamboat Springs, Colo.

July 28 quarterly session

Absent were: **Duke Harjo**, Creek District; **Jacob Mosquito**, Creek District; **Famous Marshall**, Okfuskee District; and **Nathan Buck**, Tukvpvtce District.

Speaker **Wilbur Gouge**, McIntosh District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

In Council business it:

• approved (14-7-0) Tribal Resolution 01-26, authorizing execution of an agreement, part 2, by the principal chief between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and SGS, LLC;

voting yes were (representatives listed by district): **Thomas McIntosh**, McIntosh; Okfuskee; **Bill Fife**, Okfuskee; **David Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Keeper Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Anderson Hale**, Okmulgee; **Sandra Turner Peters**, Okmulgee; **David Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Dwayne Lowe**, Tukvpvtce; **James McGirt**, Tukvpvtce; **Mary Sue Peak**, Tulsa; **Earl King**, Tulsa; **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa; **Jesse Kelley**, Tulsa; and **Richard Berryhill**;

• approved (17-4-0) TR 01-28, transferring employees from the lighthorse security division to the gaming operations authority board;

voting no were: **Tom Pickering**, McIntosh; **Anderson Hale**, Okmulgee; **Larry Bible**, Tulsa; and **Jesse Kelley**, Tulsa;

• approved unanimously (21-0-0) TR 01-30, approving the selection of contractors and authorizing the housing authority to execute contracts for rehabilitation repair work;

• approved unanimously (21-0-0) as amended TR 01-31, approving the selection of contractors and authorizing the housing authority to execute contracts for demolition and/or debris removal;

• approved (16-5-0) as amended TR 01-32, authorizing the principal chief to execute a letter of intent with Sundown Capital and Development, LLC, related to the development of the Mackey Sandbar site located at 81st and Riverside in Tulsa County, State of Oklahoma;

voting no were: **Sheridan Pickering**, Creek; **Helen Chupco**, Muskogee; **Harley Little**, Muskogee; **Anderson Hale,** Okmulgee; **David Nichols**, Okmulgee;

• approved (20-1-0) as amended TR 01-33, approving modification of a special services attorney contract between **Geoffrey Standing Bear** and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

voting no was **Sheridan Pickering**, Creek;

• approved (12-9-0) as amended NCA 01-51, repealing NCA 01-136 and reestablishing the academic/extra curricular program under the human development committee of the National Council;

voting no were: **Bill Fife**, Okfuskee; **David Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Keeper Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Anderson Hale,** Okmulgee; **David Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Dwayne Lowe**, Tukvpvtce; **James McGirt**, Tukvpvtce; **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa; **Richard Berryhill**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes;

• tabled (22-0-0) NCA 01-59, appropriating funds to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Emergency Improvement Program;

Famous Marshall's, Okfuskee, vote was recorded for NCA 01-59 through the duration of the session;

• tabled (18-4-0) NCA 01-67, NCA 01-123, NCA 01-124, NCA 01-125, NCA 01-128 and NCA 01-129 until funding source could be located;

voting no were: **Sheridan Pickering**, Creek; **Tom Pickering**, McIntosh; **Harley Little**, Muskogee; and **Earl King**, Tulsa;

• approved unanimously (22-0-0) NCA 01-99, authorizing a special appropriation for Tukvpvtce Methodist Church;

• approved (21-1-0) NCA 01-119, authorizing the principal chief to donate equipment, that is no longer operational, from the farm to Hanna Indian Community Center for community use;

voting no was **Thomas McIntosh**, McIntosh;

• approved (21-1-0) NCA 01-127, amending sections 102,103, 104, and 105 of NCA 01-11, "An ordinance of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing an appropriation for the Wetumka Indian Community to acquire and remodel a building on Highway 9 and to repeal NCA 99-44;"

voting no was **Tom Pickering**, McIntosh;

• approved as amended (21-0-0) NCA 01-130, authorizing a special appropriation to Muskogee Indian Community for parking lot repairs;

no vote was recorded for **Jesse Kelley**, Tulsa, from NCA 01-130 through the duration of the session;

• approved as amended (20-0-0) NCA 01-131, authorizing a special appropriation for the Muscogee-Seminole Wichita-Association;

no vote was recorded for **Mary Sue Peak**, Tulsa, from NCA 01-131 through the duration of the session;

• approved as amended (17-3-0) NCA 01-132, appropriating and authorizing the expenditure of funds for Duck Creek Indian Community for economic development gaming and renovation project;

voting no were: **Tom Pickering**, McIntosh; **Richard Berryhill**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; and **Barbara Gillespie**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes;

• approved (19-1-0) NCA 01-135, amending certain sections of the Citizenship Code, NCA 81-06, as amended by NCA 85-45, NCA 81-77, and repealing other sections;

voting no was **Tom Pickering**, McIntosh;

• approved (19-0-0) as amended NCA 01-136, amending certain tax laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and enacting new tax laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation in title 36 of the Code of Laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

Tom Pickering, McIntosh, did not vote;

• approved (18-2-0) NCA 01-140, amending NCA 89-135 (An ordinance of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation estab-

please see **COUNCIL**..., page 11

Office seeks "unkown" Individual Indian Money Account holders for Muscogee Nation

ALBUQUERQUE, NM. — The Office of Trust Funds Management is attempting to located Individual Indian Money Account holders that it has lost contact with.

Individuals on the following list of unknown IIM account holders for the Muscogee Nation are requested to complete forms, which can be obtained from any OTFM office, or call 1 (888) OST-OTFM and enter the first three digits of their account number — which is 908 — for further information.

The Office of the Special Trustee maintains a web site of the "whereabouts of unknown IIM Account Holders" which is updated on a monthly basis at: http://www.ost.doi.gov/whereabouts.html.

The following list is comprised of "unknown" IIM account holders for the Muscogee Nation:

Abrams–Old Shield, Florence; Adams, Ida J (Johnson); Adams, Willie; Anglin, Lydia A (Lewis); Anglin, Marlene J (Lewis); Arhalokoche Jr, Weaver; Armitage, Sandra J (Baker); Artussee, Audie A; Asbury, Alice A; Baker, Billy D; Baker, Dennis L; Baker, Michael W.; Barnett, Linda; Barnett, Mildred; Barzellone, Sharon R (Baker); Battese, Stanley G; Bean, Deborah J (Berryhill); Bear, Clifford; Bear, James N; Bear, Joyce A; Bear, Little Nokose; Bear, Naomi L; Bearhead, Jack; Beaver Jr, Jackie L; Beaver Jr, James M; Beaver, John; Benefield, Sallie (Sullivan); Benso, Edith E (Freeman); Berryhill, Benjamin; Berryhill, David D; Berryhill, Hepsey; Berryhill, Jim T; Berryhill, Larry D; Berryhill, Phyllis G; Berryhill, Prentiss G; Berryhill, Wayne M; Bevenue, Fannie L; Bevenue, Patricia; Bigpond Akcarolynsbrown, Carolyn S; Billey, Jackie; Bluford, Lena; Boyland, Bertha L (Tiger); Brock, Oleta A (Barnett); Brown Jr, Sam; Brown, Eugene; Brown, Jacob G; Brown, Joe E; Bruner, Estate, Stella (Anderson); Bruner, Elliot B; Buck Jr, Nathan; Buck, Vernon; Buckley, Johnas B; Buckley, Rufus; Bucktrot, Alvin; Busse, Virginia (Deere); Butler, Leta J; Camp, Josephine (Lindsey); Xazasat, Jane (Leader); Chalakee, William D; Clay, Nina (Fordker); Clinton, Woodrow W; Coker, Irene H (Robison); Coker, Wilbert; Colbert, Donald W; Columbus, Jolene (Morgan); Conner, Etta (Wiley); Coon, Ella; Coonhead, JoAnn; Coonhead, Lisa D; Cooper, Terry; Crenshaw, Donna M (Beaver); Cummings Jr, Thomas R; Cummings, Connie E; Cummings, Mildred (McCombs); Cummings, Wesley; Davenport, Vera (Thompson), Davidson, James Bryant; Davidson, Laurel J; Davis, Marion; Deer, Mitze; Deer, Simeon C; Deere, Flora; Deere, Hannah S; Deere, Manahwee M; Deere, Nova J; Derr Jr, Jerry J; Derr, Betty L; Derr, Jack J; Derr, Jimmy B; Dobbins, Naomi L (Sarty); Douglas, Elsie (Berryhill); Down

please see **IIM**..., page 4

Tribe establishes post graduate program

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation has established a post graduate degree program to provide financial aid opportunities to tribal members that are pursuing master, doctoral, or professional degrees/ certification.

All applications will be considered upon the availability of funds. The amount of awards are $500 per semester for full time students and $250 per semester for part time students. Awards will be processed twice per academic year. The total amount of awards may not exceed $1,000 per academic year for full time students or $500 per academic year for part time students. Awards are limited to two years (four semesters/quarters) for a master's degree and three years for (six semesters/quarters) for doctoral candidates.

To be eligible, applicants must: submit, along with original application, a copy of Muscogee Nation Citizenship Card, photo, education degree, copy of transcript with bachelor's degree earned, letter of acceptance to a graduate program, and a class schedule; maintain of grade point average of 3.0 or meet required grading system by university program; provide grade report or transcript at the end of each term; and provide a class schedule for each term.

The application closing date for the academic year is Oct. 15. For more information, call or write Muscogee Nation Higher Education at: (918) 756-8700, extensions 614, 615, or 616; P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

Council Oak Tree Ceremony being held

TULSA — The annual Council Oak Tree Ceremony will be held from 1 to 2 p.m., Oct. 20 at the Oak Tree Park, 18th and South Cheyenne.

The event, sponsored by the Muscogee Nation and coordinated by Tulsa Creek Indian Community, continues at TCIC Center from 3 to 7:30 p.m. There will be stickball games, stompdance, and other activities, with a traditional Indian dinner to be served at 5 p.m. Arts and crafts booths will be set up at the community center from 10 a.m to 5 p.m. Vendors must provide a Certificate Degree of Indian Blood Card or tribal card to be eligible to setup. Booth fees are free for Muscogee citizens and $20 for other Indian peoples.

All tribal towns are requested to be represented by their *mekko*, *henneha*, *helishiya*; or *empvnayv*, along with shellshakers, members, and stickball players.

Tribal members are invited and encouraged to attend this historical remembrance.

For more information, contact TCIC at: (918) 298-2464; June Mustari at (918) 747-7671; Carol Morris at (918) 810-0425; Paula Willits at (918) 445-1155; or Ron Cleghorn at (918) 743-7126.

Cultural preservation office offering workshops

OKMULGEE — In November the Muscogee Nation Cultural Preservation office will begin hosting a series of workshops to help revive and expand the traditional arts of basket weaving, pottery making, and finger weaving.

The workshop series, to be held at the Creek Council House Museum located at 106 W. 6th, will teach citizens interested in learning how to teach these arts to others. It is hoped that a core group of teachers will be assembled to teach other citizens about these ancient Mvskoke arts. In this way, we can help ourselves revive and continue the skills of our ancestors, said Joyce Bear, cultural preservation manager.

The classes are tentatively scheduled for Nov. 3 — pottery making — and Nov. 10 — basket weaving — from 10 a.m to 3 p.m. A date has not been scheduled for a finger weaving class.

The Instructor for each workshop will be showing the entire process of the craft. Topics will include: the processing of the raw materials; an overview of methods used; the skill itself; and the finishing process.

Participants can expect to learn about: gathering river cane; processing native clay; natural dyes used in coloring; and pit firing of pottery; and the designs and artistic patterns used by ancient Maskoke.

The series of workshops are scheduled in the fall with the intent for participants to refine their craft during the winter. Additional classes may be scheduled as necessary to help refine crafts also. The following spring/summer classes will be scheduled for the general public. The fall class size is limited to 15 students.

For more information, call Bear at (918) 756-8700, ext. 601 or Ted Isham, Creek Council House Museum at (918) 756-2324.

California Maskokulke holding quarterly meeting

COMMERCE, CA — The year's last quarterly meeting of the California Muscogee (Creek) Association is scheduled for 11:30 a.m., Nov. 3 at the Southern California Indian Center, 6055 E. Washington Blvd.

All Muscogee (Creeks) living in or traveling through the State of California are encouraged to attend.

Native Marines schedule dances for corp birthday

CARNEGIE — The Native American Marine Corps Veterans Association is holding its annual dance in celebration of the Marine Corp birthday on Nov. 10.

All Native American Marines have an open invitation to join the celebration which will be held at the Kiowa Tribal Complex Red Buffalo Hall. All tribal peoples are invited to attend; an attendance of more than 1,500 — including delegations of tribes from throughout the U.S. — is expected.

Committee of Osten Veterans' Day observance

OKMULGEE — The Committee of Osten are overseeing a tribal Veterans Day observance to be held at the Muscogee Veterans Memorial Monument, tribal capital complex, beginning at 11 a.m., Nov. 12.

The master of ceremonies is Rev. Jerry Byrd. The keynote speaker will be tribal District Court Judge Patrick Moore of Okmulgee. Other speakers include: Lyle Deere of Muskogee; Phillip Coon of Sapulpa; Roman Watashe of Kellyville; Charlie Coker of Schulter; and Mvskoke Veterans Honor Guard.

In the event of inclement weather, the observance *will* be held at the Okmulgee Elderly Nutrition Center located in the human development building on the capital complex.

Head Start participates in program

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee Nation Head Start program is participating in its second year of the Sleep Safe Program sponsored by the Indian Health Service and the U.S. Fire Administration.

The program objective as implemented by Head Start is to increase the number of operable smoke alarms in the homes of children enrolled in Muscogee Nation Head Start Centers.

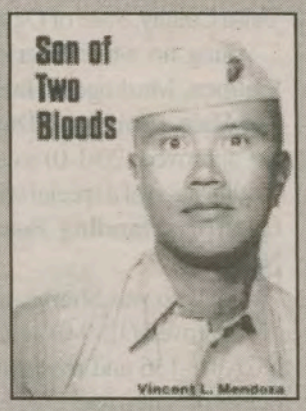
The program also provides teachers, parents, and child care providers with basic information on how to identify and eliminate home fire safety hazards.

For more information, contact Eva Cook, project coordinator, at (918) 758-1420, ext. 22.

Book review
"Son of Two Bloods"

by Ken Davis

"Sons of Two Bloods," written by Muscogee tribal citizen Vincent L. Mendoza, is an emotional, insightful, and very well written book that was the recipient of the prestigious North American Indian Prose Award in 1995.



It is said that an autobiography is the most difficult book to write because of the subject. Mendoza has approached his subject, himself, with objectivity and blunt honesty. In the very beginning, he talks with candor about his two worlds, Muscogee and Mexican, and the conflicts and joys that his two bloods produce in everyday life. The stories of his two families and his youth are touching and some of his experience are humorous. Throughout Mendoza's book, the sense of pain is always evident, but the courage and tenacity that he has always displayed in life is an inspiration. Mendoza went to, experienced, and returned with honor from combat in Vietnam. His chapter about his time in Vietnam as a U.S. Marine is riveting, but brief. As usual though, here is another brave Mvskoke warrior that could write an entire book about his combat experience alone — and he is encouraged to immediately.

From chapter nine, titled Mi Familia, until the end of the book, Mendoza's writing is the best account of one's life I have read in a very long time. Mendoza is straightforward and inspirational about his relationships with his wife, children, family, and a little guy named Lance Anthony DeGraw. Mendoza's writing about the passing of his wife and Lance is highly emotional and will touch every reader's heart.

He has written a superb book that should be in every tribal citizen's collection. Mendoza has led a life, so far, that has proven to all that life must be confronted with dignity and purpose and to never surrender to life, but face it with courage and strength.

Editor's note: The ISBN for "Son of Two Bloods" is 0-8032-3188-1. It was published by the University of Nebraska Press, but is now out of print. Copies can by purchased by contacting Harvest Books at: 260 New York Drive, Suite B, Fort Washington, PA 19034 or 1 (800) 563-1222.

Ken Davis is a tribal citizen residing in Homer, Neb. He is a U.S. Marine Corp veteran, as well an officer of the Mvskoke Red Stick (Combat Veteran) Society — of which Mendoza is also a member.

IIM

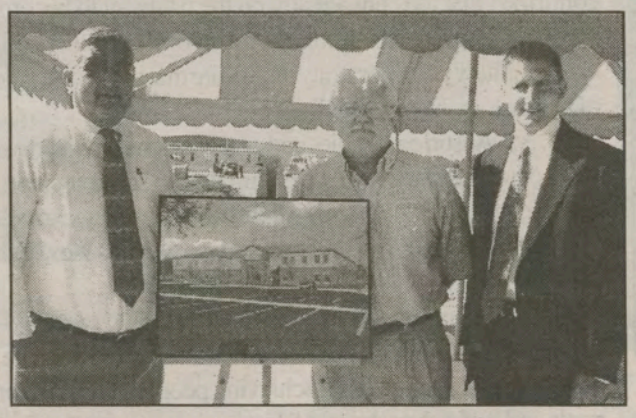
continued from page 3

ing, Jacqueline (Bear); Dunn, Cheryl; Dunn, Lavena S; Dunn, Richard L; Dunn, Wilma M (Sewel); Elliott, Elsiphine (Lowe); Ellis, Ida (Simmons); Evans, Everett W; Evans, Helen; Evans, Loren J; Factor, David S; Factor, James W; Factor, Patricia; Falls, Rosa L (Jones); Field, Solomon; Fish, Albert L; Fish, Mary; Fisher, Billy J; Fisher, Kenneth; Fisher, Molly (Tiger); Fixaco, Hiawatha; Fixico, Bessie; Fixico, James R; Fleming, Betty J (Johnson); Ford, Denise A (Butler); Foster, Louise (Bennett); Fox, Betty J; Frances, Josephine (DEO); Francis, Dion; Francis, Eliza J; Francis, Reno M; Freeman, Herman; Fry Jr, Sam; Fry, Robert; Frye, Marion (Bunny); Gerber, Jimmie; Givens, Mary J (Hobia);

please see **IIM**..., page 12

Tribal programs, people, and events

The Okmulgee Indian Education Committee, was awarded for being an exemplary program for the 2000-01 school year by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Johnson O'Malley Program. Pictured, left to right, front: Tammy Lewis, JOM coordinator; Nakina Leybas, chair; back — Nancy Mason, secretary; and Jim Thomas, member. Not pictured are: Johnny Leybas, vice president; and Mike James, member. Sapulpa and Holdenville Indian education committees were also recognized for exemplary service at a JOM in-service training held in late September.



Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver, Bernd Koerber, Army Corp of Engineers, and Shawn Scott, president and chief executive officer of Scott Guernesey Solutions, pose with a project model drawing of the new housing authority building during ground breaking ceremonies held on Sept. 13.

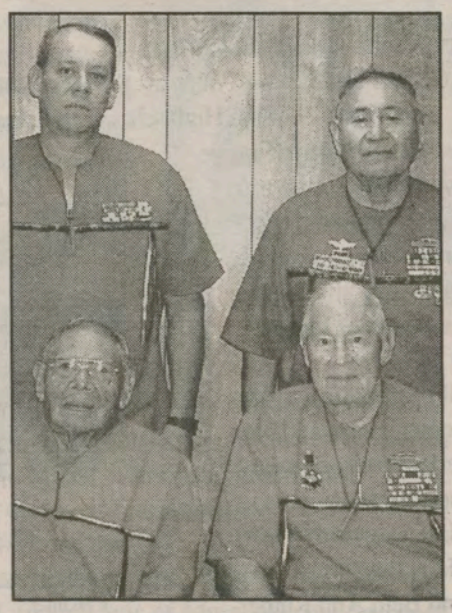
submitted photo

Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver, second from left, front row, met with members of the Oklahoma Turnpike Authority, Wagoner County Commission, Porter Chamber of Commerce; and engineers of Kelly Engineering and Associates, Inc. during ground breaking ceremonies at the construction site of an off and on ramp to the Will Rogers Turnpike.

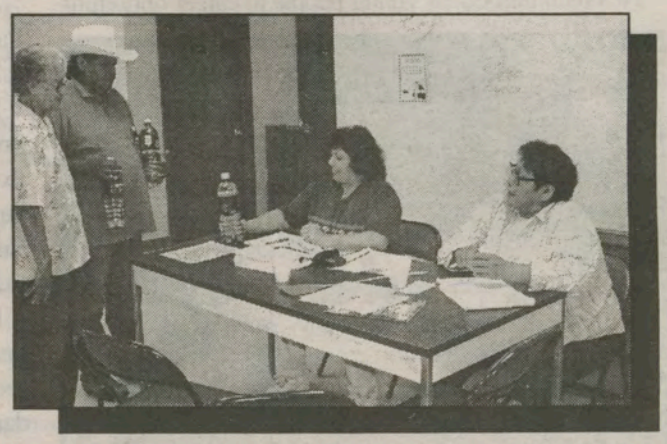
Tribal Johnson O'Malley Program Manager Virginia Thomas presents Sapulpa Indian Education Coordinator Dwight Pickering a coffee mug, for his 50th birthday, at a JOM in-service training held on Sept. 27.

photos by Gerald Wofford and Denise Jacobs

A Muscogee Nation Vocational Rehabilitation Conference "Humor Healing" was held on Sept. 21. Pictured, left to right, front: Gale Smith and Mary Lee, both of tribal vocational rehabilitation; back — Dale Walters, tribal vocational rehabilitation; Steve Safferon, guest speaker; and Mike O'Brien, Oklahoma Administrative Division of Vocational Rehabilitation.



Mvskoke Redstick Society officers are, front: Phillip Coon, vice president; Ernest Childers, who recently resigned as president because of ill health; back — Ken Davis,secretary; and Amos Harjo, president.

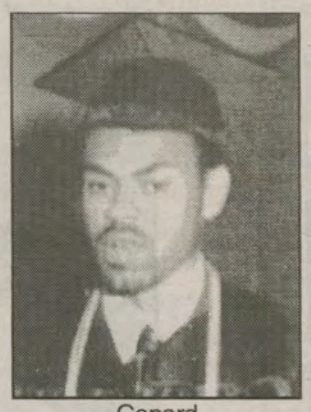


Dustin resident Elizabeth Spears, far left, picks up drinking water being distributed at Dustin Indian Community Center. The community of 500, which has a 50 percent Indian population, has been without drinking water for over a month. Drinking water provisions have been made by Muscogee Nation Community Development. Also pictured are: Joe Simpson, volunteer; Christina Roberts, tribal community health representatives high risk medical transporter; and Stella Simpson, Hanna Indian Community chair.

Education

Man named All-American Collegiate Scholar

LAWRENCE, Kan. — The United States Achievement Academy announced that Michael DeAndrea Conard has been named All-American Collegiate Scholar.


Conard

The All-American Collegiate Scholars must earn a 3.3 or higher grade point average. Only scholars selected by school officials or other qualified sponsors are accepted.

Conard, who attends Haskell Indian Nations University, was nominated for the award by Manny King, university registrar.

He is the son of Willie Wilson and Brenda Conard of Muskogee and the grandson of Beatrice London of Muskogee and Blossom Wilson of Tulsa.

Woman receives bachelor's degree in business

JOPLIN, Mo. — Erin LeAnn O'Dell graduated with a bachelor's degree in business administration from Missouri Southern State College.

O'Dell

While attending college, she was an all-conference sprinter for the Lady Lions indoor and outdoor track team.

She is the daughter of Laura and Larry O'Dell of Caney, Kan. She is the granddaughter of Anna Lee and Harmon Wiley of Sapulpa.

Her plans include attending graduate school at Pittsburgh State University.

Dustin senior attends technology summit

AUSTIN, Texas — Billy Hill of Dustin recently had the opportunity to meet technology and business leaders and more than 1,000 technology oriented scholars from across the country at NexTech: The National Summit of Young Technology Leaders held in July.

NexTech introduces young people to career opportunities and new developments in the technology industry.

"With the generous contributions of information from Austin's business community, we hope the Billy and the other thousand-plus students who participated in the NexTech summit gained the courage and drive to set their ideas in motion," said Darryl Schumaker, director of NexTech. "For some of these highly qualified individuals, they may have confirmed that they are already on the pathway to becoming the next great technological inventors. For others this was definitely an opportunity to explore that which the field of technology has to offer."

Several Austin companies and organizations provided expert content for the NexTech Summit. The summit culminated in the Prodigy Awards, sponsored by Prodigy, to celebrate the contributions and ingenuity of various NexTech participants.

NexTech is sponsored by Washington, D.C. based Envision EMI, Inc. which operates with a mission to educate, motivate, and inspire "high achieving people to reach their goals and fulfill their dreams." Envision has an established history of creating leadership education opportunities.

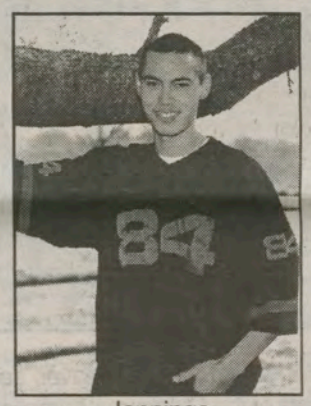
Billy Hill is a senior at Dustin High School. He is the son of Billy and Maria Hill of Okmulgee and the grandson of Mary Hill of Dustin and Edmond and Martha Lowe of Eufaula.

photo by Gerald Wofford

Okmulgee High School Johnson O'Malley program class of 2001 included: Carl Lee; Nathan Ingram; Noah Greenhaw; Randy Jackson; Amber Zafar; Brandy Harjo; Amy Peeler; Jennifer Colombin; Roberta Thomas; Kim Reagan; Denise Nuttle; Willie Lewis; A.J. Harley; Dallas Ewton; Kevin Mitchell.

Morris citizen graduates from high school

MORRIS — Kirby Lee Jennings graduated from Morris High School with a 3.56 grade point average.


Jennings

Jennings was on the honor roll for four years. He played basketball for four years and was starting point guard for three years.

He was nominated for Who's Who Among American High School Students. Jennings is a member of Big Cussetah United Methodist Church.

He is the son of Bobby and Teresa Jennings of Okmulgee and the grandson of the late Henry and Elizabeth Tarpalechee and the late Pearline Day.

Jennings is currently attending Oklahoma State University-Okmulgee majoring in technology information.

Arizona youth studies in Europe

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. — Anthony Stephen Rutherford Padilla, a junior at Coconino High school, participated in a school sponsored trip to Europe.

Padilla

His world history class trip provided an opportunity to experience foreign culture, languages, and arts of the European countries: England; France; and Italy.

Padilla maintains a 4.0 grade point average and has received numerous academic and athletic honors.

Padilla belongs to the Deer Clan. He is the son of Anthony and Beth Ann Rutherford Padilla.

His grandparents are Frank and Letha Beaver Rutherford; his great-grandparents are the late John and Della Fox Beaver.

Citizen graduates from Portland State University

PORTLAND, Ore. — Jayme Evan Schultz graduated from Portland State University in June.

He received a bachelor of arts, majoring in business.

Schultz worked throughout college and is currently assistant grocery manager at Albertsons in Lake Oswego, Ore.

After the graduation ceremony his father, Ross Emery Schultz of Portland, Ore., held a party. Among those attending were: Kerry Schultz Sexson of Milwaukee, Wisc.; and Christie Schultz, Stephan Morse, and Willa Bell Hutchison Schultz, all of Bremerton, Wash.

Girl graduates from youth police academy

Watashe

BERNARDINO, Calif. — Holly Watashe graduated from the the first class of the National Indian Youth Police Academy in August.

She was among 60 Indian youth chosen from throughout the nation to attend the academy and explore law enforcement and criminal justice as a possible career field.

While attending the academy, she spent 14 days attending and participating in a series of classes designed to offer participants hands-on experience and a working knowledge of major area of police work.

Watashe, age 14, is a freshman at Stroud High School.

She is the daughter of Ben Watashe of Kellyville and Sylvestine Franklin of Stroud.

Her maternal grandparents are Nola Fields of Tulsa and Anthony Arkeketa of Ponca City. Her paternal grandfather is Roman Watashe of Kellyville.

Watashe is a member of Polecat Ceremonial Ground and belongs to the Sun Clan.

Eufaula Boarding School elect representatives

EUFAULA — Eufaula Boarding School students recently elected dormitory representives.

The following students are the dormitory representatives: Jordan Brown of Seminole; Kristi Heneha of Eufaula; Elisha Crook of Tulsa; Cameron Walker of Holdenville; Nathan Frank of Muskogee; Derrick Noriega of Tulsa; Sencia Grant of Shawnee; and Anna Tiger of Tulsa.

These students will attend meetings and represent student suggestions by offering input on activity ideas as well as being spokespersons for their floors.

Jones Academy male alumni to reunite

HARTSHORNE — A reunion of male alumni who attended Jones Academy through 1954 will begin at 10 a.m., Oct. 20.

For more information, call: Jimmy Bruner at (580) 298-3136; Ted LeFlore at (580) 889-7989; or Tom Williston at (580) 286–3585.

Eufaula Boarding School to hold reunion

EUFAULA — A reunion of students who attended the Eufaula Boarding School is in the planning stages.

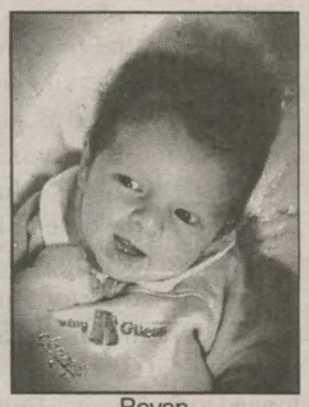
A committee meeting will be held to assign subcommittees in late October. All former alumni are encouraged to contact the committee with suggestions, ideas, and interest.

For more information, contact: Arnold "Dean" Jefferson at (918) 267-5280; or Christine Harjo McHenley at (405) 382-0081.

Births and birthdays

Jalen Bevan

TULSA — Jalen Seth Bevan was born May 29 2001 at St. Francis Hospital to Shanh-Dea and Shane Bevan.


Bevan

He weighed 8 pounds, 9 ounces and was 20 and one half inches in length.

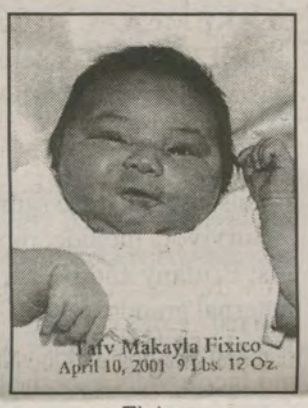
His maternal grandparents are Craig and Debbie Mosquito of Mounds; paternal grandparents are Kenny and Carol Bevan of Henryetta.

Jalen has one sister, Michaela, age three.

Tafv Fixico

ADA — Tafv Makayla Fixico was born April 10 at Carl Albert Indian Hospital to Angela Killingsworth and Richard Fixico Jr., both of Okemah.

She weighed 9 pounds, 12 ounces, and was 20 inches in length.



Fixico

Her maternal grandfather is William Killingsworth of Tulsa. Her maternal great-grandmother is Lola Hardridge of Kellyville. Paternal grandparents are Richard and Della Fixico of Okemah.

She has two siblings, Tyler Killingsworth and Chelsea Fixico. She belongs to the Bear Clan.

Okemah woman celebrates 30th birthday

OKEMAH — Maggie Ann Davis celebrated her 30th birthday on Sept. 28 at home with relatives and friends.

Davis

She is the daughter of Johnie and Daria Hicks of Okemah.

Her maternal grandparents are Frank and Annie Billy of Checotah. Her paternal grandparents are the late Charley Davis of Valliant and Meble Davis of Broken Bow.

She is of Creek, Cherokee, and Choctaw descent and belongs to Deer Clan.

Citizen celebrates 80th birthday

HOLDENVILLE — Louis (Lewis) "Sosa" McCosar celebrated his 80th birthday.

On June 23 his family and friends held a birthday party at the Holdenville Civic Center. Being a 60-year fan of the Chicago Cubs, his cousins, Mona Faulkner and Lee "Buck" Brooks, decorated with a Cubs theme. His granddaughter, Heather Bell of Shawnee, brought a cake decorated like a baseball field.

Carney Buck was the master of ceremonies. Rev. Malcolm Tiger gave a devotional and read notes from several nieces. His nephew, Amos Harjo of Cyril, read his service record and cited his various medals. His cousin, Soc Buck, read a poem he wrote for "Sosa."

Gospel singing was provided by: longtime friends, Betty Taylor of Holdenville and James Bruner of Antlers; nieces, Jeanette Davis of Choctaw, Mablene Harjo of Tucson, Ariz., and Michele Harjo of Cyril; great niece Tina Washington of Wewoka; and cousins, Lee Buck Brooks, Margaret Buck Siegrist, and Carney and Blackie Buck.

Over 150 attended, including: great-great niece Erica Kirkpatrick of Tucson, Ariz.; and relatives and friends from Cyril, Anadarko, Midwest City, Oklahoma City, Tulsa, Choctaw, Antlers, Ada, Wewoka, Wetumka, Seminole, Calvin, Lamar, Sasakwa, Tecumseh, Shawnee, McLoud, Del City, Earlsboro, and Holdenville.

The full blood Muscogee was born in Holdenville and belongs to the Bird Clan. He has lived in Holdenville and Wewoka for most of his life with the exception of three years in the Army and 14 years working in Chicago, Ill.

"I want to thank all who helped make this celebration such a nice event," McCosar said.

Tulsa Creek Indian Community honors members

In September Tulsa Creek Indian Community held a dinner to honor community members Mary Arkeketa, Robert Hufft, and Jesse Kelley for their continual contributions to the community.

Arkeketa has been a community member since the inception of TCIC. She belongs to the Tiger Clan and is originally from Okmulgee. She graduated from Haskell in 1949 and from St. John's School of Nursing in 1952. She worked for 33 years as a registered nurse before retiring. She has been married to Ben Arkeketa for 47 years; they have five daughters. Her hobbies include church and community work. Arkeketa's are offering a variety of community activities to get members actively involved in the community.

Hufft and Kelley are both Tulsa District Representatives to the National Council.

Accomplishments

Boy wins first place in baby pageant

TULSA — Joe Garza Martel III won first place in the king division at the Tulsa N.W. Lions Club Baby Pageant 2001 held in June at the Tulsa Expo Center.

He also received a trophy for "personality kiddie" and placed in the beauty contest.

Martel

He is the son of Kimberly Reagan and Joe Martel Jr. of Beggs. His paternal grandparents are Katherine Tecumseh of Tulsa and Joe Martel Sr. of Dallas, Texas. His maternal grandparents are Bridgette and Steve Reagan of Tulsa.

His paternal great-grandparents are the late Wisey Scott and Isreal Tecumseh, Kvncate area and Ramona and the late Mike Martel Sr. of Dallas, Texas. His maternal great- grandparents are: Ann Fisher and the late Charlie Boomer Fisher of Beggs; Bernice and Alfred Biglow; and Carl Reagan of Okmulgee.

He belongs to Nuyaka Tribal Town and is the son of Kvncate Tribal Town. He is of Muscogee and Seminole descent.

Creek Nation Senior citizens place at fair

OKMULGEE — Creek Nation Senior Citizens of Okmulgee exhibited crafts and clothing in the Okmulgee County Fair held in September.

Placing were: Charlie Coker — first place on a patchwork coat, second place on a latticework shirt, third place on a Pendleton tote bag, and 7th place ribbon on a clock; Esther Gee — third place ribbon on a cushion; Jorene Coker — third place ribbon on a cushion and third place ribbon on a two piece dress. Senior Citizens Gift Shop received a first place ribbon on a Leroy Joshua painting. "The members were pleasantly surprised to win these ribbons and we hope to do as well at the next year's fair," said J. Coker.

Sports

Girl participates in little league

GROVE — Ten year old Delana Bear played for the Grove Little League's "Boston Red Sox" 10 to 12 year old softball team this summer.

Bear

Bear played second base; this was her first year to participate in any competitive sport. During the last game of the season she caught the winning ball to win the Red Sox the title of league champions. She was one of 12 girls chosen to play on an all-star team. The all-star team was scheduled to play in Atlanta, Ga. The Red Sox were coached by David Bible and Carl Sconyers.

Bear is an honor student in Grove Upper-Elementary Schools.

She is the daughter of Rachael and David Bible of Grove and Joe Bear of Dustin. She is of Muscogee, Seminole, Cherokee, and Choctaw descent.

Reunions/gatherings

Hanna community holding open house and bingo

HANNA — Hanna Indian Community is holding an open house and bingo on Oct. 13.

The open house will begin at 10 a.m. and the bingo will begin at 2 p.m.

Marshall Family

WETUMKA — Descendants of Lewis and Mandy Marshall have scheduled their annual family reunion to begin at 10 a.m. on Oct. 20 at the Ag Complex.

The complex is located one half of a mile east of Wetumka, on the Wetumka Indian Baptist Church road. The date co

please see **REUNION**..., page 12

KESSLER BIGPOND SR.

BRISTOW — Funeral services for Kessler Bigpond Sr. were held July 28 at the Hutchins-Maples Funeral Home Chapel with Revs. Harry Long and Rachel Boyiddle officiating.

Kessler was born December 18, 1908 in Bristow to John and Nancy Anderson Bigpond. He died on July 24 in Bristow, at the age of 92 years.

Bigpond attended school and lived in Bristow most of his life, but he also lived in Los Angeles, Calf. for 18 years before moving back to Bristow in 1975. He was employed as an engineer at Hardman Tool and Engineering, retiring in 1975. After retiring, he worked as a security guard at a Tulsa Safeway Grocery Store.

He was a member of the Choska Indian Methodist Church and he loved tending to his cattle and ranching. Bigpond was a very hard worker who enjoyed bull riding and all sports.

Kessler and Lucy James were united in marriage on August 29, 1925 in Holdenville.

Preceding him in death were: his parents; daughter, Cecilia Ann Bigpond; brothers, Joe and Anderson Bigpond; and sister, Susie Lunsford.

He is survived by: his wife; four sons, David Bigpond of Bristow, Ethan Bigpond of Okmulgee, Kessler Bigpond Jr. of Albuquerque, NM and Wendell Bigpond of Sapulpa; sister, Rachel Guitierrez; eighteen grandchildren; numerous great-grandchildren; and numerous other relatives and a host of friends.

Interment was at the Magnolia Memorial Gardens.

RAYMOND EDWARDS

CHECOTAH — Funeral services for Raymond Edwards were held July 25 at the Eastside First Baptist with Rev. Anthony Washington officiating.

Edwards was born on May 8, 1909 in Onapa to the late Jesse and Martha Wolf Edwards. He grew up in McIntosh county where he attended Gallilee Public School. He accepted Christ at an early age.

In 1932, he was united in marriage to the late Odell Phillips and they settled in the Council Hill area. He later joined the Masonic Lodge Creek #209. He lived a peaceful and useful life and was always ready and willing to help anyone along life's way.

After retiring from cement finishing and farming, his favorite past-time was gardening and relaxing.

He was preceded in death by his parents, two daughters, wife and a great grandson.

Raymond is survived by: six grandchildren, eleven great-grandchildren, eight great-great-grandchildren and a host of friends and relatives, including a special friend Linda Jefferson and her two daughters and two grandchildren.

Pallbearers for the services were Milton Cooksey, J.L. McGinnis, Gene Woodfork, Alonoz Edwards, Alvin Potters and Rayfield Robertson.

Honorary pallbearers were his great-grandsons and great-great-grandson; Johnny "Shoog" Edwards, Jack LeMar, and Charlie Leader.

Interment was at Paradise Cemetery.

GEORGE FRASER, JR.

OKEMAH — Funeral services for George Edmond Fraser, Jr. were held March 27 at the Arbeka Indian Baptist Church with Bro. Marvin Lowe officiating.

He was born January 16, 1958 at Henryetta to Myrtle and the late George Fraser, the second of seven children, and died March 22 at the Okemah Care Center at 43 years of age.

Fraser learned the roofing trade in 1978 and had been a roofer ever since. He lived in Tulsa at the time of his death. He attended the Rockford Church of Christ.

He was preceded in death by his father, his paternal grandparents and his maternal grandfather.

Survivors include his mother of Weleetka; three sisters, Kathy Zackery Gail Moore both of Weleetka; Diane Fraser of Tulsa and three brothers, Bill Fraser of Biloxi, Ms., Frank Fraser of Durant and Gary Fraser of Tulsa; two half sisters, Doris Armstrong of Pierce and Karen Cooke of Phoenix, Az.; his grandmother, Elsie Watters of Henryetta; seven aunts; one uncle; seven nieces; two nephews; one great-niece; and several cousins.

Pallbearers were James Byrne, Stanley Zackery, Jr., Donald, Darrell, Kevin, and Eric Crawford.

SHARON GILES

NEWCASTLE — Funeral services for Sharon P. Grayson Giles were held on July 2, 2001 at Newcastle Christian Church with Revs. Mike Hoblier, Chilles Hutchinson, and Billie Nowachi officiating.

Giles died on June 27 as a result of an automobile accident near Shawnee. She was born on October 19, 1945 to Luther Grayson and Delores Starr in Claremore.

She married Roy Giles on August 5, 1966 in Vinita. They made their home in Okemah where she taught in the Public School System for seven years. They later moved to Newcastle where Sharon was employed with the Newcastle Public School Systems for 22 years before retiring in 1996 as the High School Librarian. After retiring she began as director of the tribally operated Sac and Fox National Public Library near Stroud, where she administered a full range of public library programs.

She was an active member of the First Christian Church of Moore and a volunteer for the American Red Cross.

Sharon is survived by: husband of the home; two daughters, Deana Giles of New York and Joy Giles Russell of Ceder City, Utah; her mother, Delores Grayson of Houston, Tx.; one sister, Dee Ann Scott of Springfield, Ill.; two nephews, Richard Scott of Savannah, Ga. and Spl. Matthew Scott, US Army General.

Pallbearers were: Ryan Sykes, Pete Vanzant, Joey Grayson, Henry Mobley, Johnny Checotah, Brent Sykes, Buddy Wyatt, Sky Checotah, Corey Russell, and Harold Collins.

Honorary pallbearers include: Pat Sparkes, Deana Sykes, Georgia Small, Julie Wickersham, Kay Medcalf, Janet Samel, Martha McDoulett, and Ernestine Standley.

Interment was at the Moore City Cemetery.

MORGAN HAYS

PAWHUSKA — Funeral services for Morgan L. Hays were held April 11 at St. Thomas Episcopal Church .

Morgan was one of six children born to Mr. and Mrs. W. Pierce Hays of Wagoner. He spent his childhood there and graduated from Wagoner High School in 1932. He then went to work for the Sinclair Oil Co. in Tulsa. Hays served 3 1/2 years in the Navy during World War II. Hew was assigned to an aircraft carrier, the San Jacinto, stationed in the South Pacific.

Hays was the first city manager for the city of Broken Arrow, serving there from 1955 to 1958. He previously worked as superintendent of utilities in Wagoner for 10 years. In 1958, he took the city manager's post in Pawhuska, where he served for 23 years. At the time of his retirement, he held the state record for longevity as manager of one city.

He married Betty Knudson on September 30, 1965. Morgan was a Mason and a member of the International City Management Association and belonged to St. Thomas Episcopal Church.

Survivors include: his wife; three daughters, Hallie Hays Iseman of Alexandria, Va., Peg Marshall of Bartlesville, and Pam McCallum of Dallas; a brother, Steve Hays of Kenner, La.; four granddaughters; and one great-grandson.

BLAKE MCNAC

OKEMAH — Funeral services for Blake Thomas McNac were held August 7 with Rev. Robert Washington officiating.

Blake was born to Kimberly McNac on July 30, in Tulsa and died the same day.

Survivors include: mother of the home; two sisters, Brittany and Brook Kallos both of the home; maternal grandparents, Donnie and Louise McNac of the home; two uncles, Kevin McNac of Okmulgee and Jacob McNac of the home.

Interment was at the Nuyaka Cemetery.

MARY MILLER

MOUNDS — Funeral services for Mary Louise Miller were held July 7 at the Snake Creek Indian Baptist Church with Rev. George Doyle officiating.

Miller was born December 21, 1950 in Claremore to Norman C. and Anna Lewis Miller. She died at her home in Mounds on July 5.

Mary was employed with the Bureau of Indian Affairs as a Program Specialist. She had been a BIA employee since 1971 and retired on February 10 with 30 years of federal service.

She grew up in the Liberty Mounds area, graduating from Liberty Mounds High School. Then attended Draughon's Business College in Dallas, Tx., from 1969 to 1971. Miller resided in Washington, D.C. then Arlington, Virginia form 1971 until she returned to her Mounds residence on March 29. She was a member of the Snake Creek Indian Baptist Church.

Preceding her in death were her parents.

Survivors include: three brothers, Jimmie L. Miller of Barrow, Alaska, Charles L. Miller of Arlington, Virginia, and Richard M. Miller of Mounds; two sisters, Norma Hale of Mounds and Hattie Burley of Carrollton, Tx.; two nieces; and six nephews.

Interment was at the Snake Creek Baptist Church Cemetery.

RICHARD POSEY, JR.

FORT GIBSON — Funeral services for Richard Raymond "Dick" Posey Jr. were held July 17 at the

please see **OBITUARIES**..., page 9

Obituaries

continued from page 8

Fort Gibson National Cemetery with Rev. Steve Breed officiating.

Posey was born on October 16, 1934, in Bourbonnais, Illinois to Richard and Hazel Koerner Posey. On September 15, 1978, he was married to Mary Jo Page in Las Vegas, Nevada.

He served in the U.S. Navy and was community health representative for the Creek Nation. He also worked for the Muskogee Police Department, International Operating Engineers Local #627, Muskogee Regional Medical Center, and was currently employed at Muskogee Wal-mart.

Richard was preceded in death by his parents.

Survivors include: his wife of the home; one daughter, Whitney Royse of Muskogee; three sons, Ben Posey, Daniel Posey, and Roger Posey, all of Muskogee; three sisters, Evelyn Epperson of Wagoner, Shirley Wilson of Hutchinson, Ks., and Carole Linduff of Shawnee; and two granddaughters, McKinzee McGrew and Emmey Royse, both of Muskogee.

LIZZIE ROPER

OKMULGEE — Funeral services for Lizzie Robison Roper were held July 30 at Okmulgee Indian Baptist Church with Revs. Robert Washington and Bill Hobia officiating.

She was born in Weleetka on August 1, 1911 to George H. Robison and Maudie Berryhill.

Roper was baptized by her uncle Rev. Alex Lowe on April 23, 1933. She was a member of the Alabama Baptist Church and she took her membership out of Alabama Baptist Church on April 4, 1990 and put her membership in Okmulgee Baptist Church.

Survivors include: her husband, Lloyd B. Roper of Okmulgee; daughter, Peggy Sue Thompson of Oklahoma City; two grandchildren, Chebon and Valerie Thompson of Oklahoma City; two nieces, Jeanetta West of Henryetta and Sally Lindsey of Oklahoma City; and three nephews, Ronnie West of Ada, Billy West of Henryetta, and Sherman West of Holdenville; and relatives, Berryhills, Robisons, and friends.

Pallbearers included: Marvin Lowe, Timmy Lowe, Jacob Lowe, Wilbert Lowe, Tony Lowe, and Steve Randall.

Interment was at Okmulgee Indian Baptist Church Cemetery.

GERALDINE ROBERTS

OKEMAH — Funeral services for Geraldine Frank Roberts were held August 3 at Greenleaf Baptist Church.

She was born January 19, 1948 in Okemah to Henry Louis Frank and Mary Harjo Frank. Roberts was a lifetime resident of Okemah and a member of the Greenleaf Baptist Church. She died July 30 in Okemah at the age of 53.

Geraldine is survived by: three sons, Clint Junior Harjochee and Jeffery Harjo both of Okemah, and Christopher Harjochee of Oklahoma City; three daughters, Esther Lene Harjochee and Angela Gray, both of Oklahoma City, and Lana Kay Harjochee of Tulsa; three brothers, Tommy Frank and Jimmy Harjo, both of Okemah, and Henry Frank, Jr. of Oklahoma City; six sisters, Angeline Wolf, Jeannie McDaniels and Augustine Cully, all of Tulsa, Wanda Mae Little of Okemah, Ora Frank of Tahlequah, and Pat Frank of Dallas; thirteen grandchildren and a host of other family and friends.

NATHANIEL WILDCAT

COFFEYVILLE, KS — Funeral services for Nathaniel "Nat" Wildcat were held August 9 at the First Baptist Church.

Nathaniel was born May 19, 1927 in Sapulpa to Maxey and Lizzie Bighead Wildcat. Nat was a full blood Euchee Indian. He graduated from Chilocco Indian Boarding School in Oklahoma in 1945, where he was president of his class. In July 1945, he entered the United States Marine Corps and serviced until his honorable discharge at the end of the war in 1946. His service included the occupation of China. He died at the age of 74 on August 6 at Coffeyville Regional Medical Center of a sudden heart attack.

Nat learned the printing trade at Chilocco and went on to work in printing for forty years, from December 1948 to December 1988. He worked from 1957-1961 at the Tulsa World, and the remaining years at the Coffeyville Journal until December 1, 1988. After that time, he was self-employed.

On May 21, 1950 he married Barbara Irene Andrews of Valeda, Kansas. They had a public celebration for their fiftieth wedding anniversary last year, and celebrated their fifty-first year of marriage this year.

Wildcat and family went annually to the Euchee Wild Onion Festival at Pickett Church, Sapulpa, where Nat and his family were members. He and his family attended Wildcat and Bighead family reunions at Pickett Church also. He understood the Euchee language, which few Euchees now speak. His family was included in the Gilcrease Museum exhibit of Euchee Indian history. His sons both communicate Indian cultural history-Wayne in his art and Dan in his teachings at Haskell Indian Nations University, both in Lawrence, Kansas.

He was an active member of the First Baptist Church in Coffeyville. Nat served as Deacon and Trustee, sang in the choir and in a gospel quartet for over twenty years, and Coffeyville Cultural Arts Council.

Wildcat is survived by: his wife of the home; two sons, Dan and Wayne both of Lawrence, Ks.; two brothers, Jimmie and Andrew both of Tulsa; two sisters, Josephine Bigler and Maxine Barnett both of Sapulpa; one grandson, Hakan of Lawrence, Ks.; and many nephews and nieces.

Interment was at Robbins Cemetery.

Gratitude

We would like to take this time to express our deepest heartfelt appreciation to those who shared with us at our time of grief.

The many phone calls and food offerings were appreciated and the kindness of our many relatives and friends.

We will miss him deeply but his memory will live on in our hearts. Mvto from the bottom of our hearts.

Special thanks to: A.D. Ellis, second chief; Chebon Gouge, National Council Speaker; Bonnie Soweka; Ryal Community Church; and Rogers Funeral Home.

George Walker Family

Religion

Methodist Women holding country fair

PRESTON — The Northeast Region of United Methodist Women are holding a country fair from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Oct. 13 at the Northeast District Center.

Country fair items for sale will include: Indian crafts and holiday arts and crafts. A food sale and garage sale will be held also.

Trenton Baptist holding gospel singing

HANNA — Trenton Baptist Church is holding their 22nd annual gospel singing at 7 p.m., Oct. 27

The master of ceremonies is Al Brown and Ada Harmonettes. The pastor is Frank Billy.

All singers and listeners are welcome. Concessions will be available.

The church is located three and one half miles west of Hanna.

Bemo schedules tribal singing

BIXBY — Bemo Baptist Church is holding a tribal singing starting at 7 p.m. on Oct. 29.

Supper will be served at 5 p.m. Rev. George Doyle is the pastor.

The church is located on 131st and Memorial.

Bacone Chapel schedules gospel singing

MUSKOGEE — Bacone College Chapel is holding a gospel singing on Nov. 9 at 7 p.m.

The master of ceremonies is Curtis Kinney.

For more information, call (918) 682-4703.

Little Cussetah slates gospel singing

SCHULTER — Little Cussetah Methodist Church is holding a gospel singing on Nov. 10.

The master of ceremonies is Spook Wesley. All singers and listeners are welcome.The pastor is Scott Harjo.

To get to the church from Henryetta, drive three miles north on U.S. Highway 75 to Wilson Road. Turn west on Wilson Road and drive one mile, then three fourths of a mile north.

For more information, call (918) 473-2434.

Snake Creek hosting Veterans Day program

BIXBY — Snake Creek Church No. 1 Baptist Church is hosting a Veterans Day program on Nov. 10 at 6 p.m.

Everyone is welcome to attend. "Come join us in saying thank you to those who served their country under Old Glory," said coordinator Anderson Hale.

A reception will be held following the program.

For more information, Hale at (918) 366-6861 or Amon Deere at (918) 455-7515.

Election

continued from page 1

Creek District
Seat A:
George Tiger — 129
Judy Aaron — 141
Seat B:
Duke Harjo (I) — 128
Lucy Carpitcher — 23
Phyllis Warrington — 120
Seat C:
Roger D. Barnett — 197
Jacob Mosquito (I) — 73

McIntosh District
Seat A:
Tommy Pickering (I) — 291
Shelly Crow — 218
Seat B: Wilbur C. Gouge (I) — unopposed
Seat C:
Sue Ann Bear Dalgarn — 164
Thomas McIntosh (I) — 225
Wilson Bear — 118

Muskogee District
Seat A: Helen Chupco (I) — unopposed
Seat B: Harley Gene Little (I) —unopposed

Okfuskee District
Seat A:
Timothy H. Wind — 36
Phillip W. Coon — 74
Nancy S. (West) Watson — 142
David Hale — 50

Seat B:
Lena (Wind) Marshall — 130
H. Mae Jackson — 176
Seat C:
Sandra J. Golden — 158
Wynema Roberts — 133

Okmulgee District
Seat A:
Estherlene Gee — 241
David Lewis (I) — 289
Seat B:
Keeper J. Johnson (I) — 297
Rita Williams — 226
Seat C:
Richard D. Ellis — 139
Anderson Hale (I) — 154
George B. Almerigi — 231
Seat D:
Peggy Lyda — 223
Sandra Turner Peters (I) — 301
Seat E:
David D. Nichols (I) — unopposed

Tukvpvtce District
Seat A:
David S. Yargee — 188
Dwayne Lowe (I) — 273
Seat B:
David Jimboy — 160
James R. McGirt (I) — 89
Thomas Yahola — 220
Seat C:
Nathan Buck (I) — 94
Lola Fields — 241
Lewis Turner Yahola — 69
J.W. Buck — 89

Tulsa District
Seat A: Larry S. Bible — unopposed
Seat B:
Mary Sue Peak (I) — 183
Cherrah De'Ann Ridge-Quiett — 173
Richard E. Wilde — 85
Seat C:
Earl W. King (I) — 186
Ronald Allen Cleghorn — 258
Seat D: Robert L. Hufft — unopposed
Seat E: Jesse F. Kelley — unopposed

Wagoner District
Seat A: Richard Berryhill — unopposed
Seat B: Barbara Gillespie — unopposed

Runoff races will be decided in the Nov. 3 general election. All enrolled Muscogee tribal members, ages 18 and older, are eligible to vote, but must have valid voter registration to do so. Tribal members who intend to vote at the precincts have from Sept. 26 through Oct. 24 to register at the tribal election board office. The deadline for absentee voters to request absentee ballots to vote in both elections was Aug. 29.

Election board staff requests that information be updated regarding: changes of address (changes related to 911 included); name changes; and informing the office of deaths of registered voters.

For more information, call the election board office at (918) 756-8700, extensions 294 or 349.

Voter

continued from page 1

13,684 registered tribal voters. Absentee voters make up 5,466 of this amount. Of 5,466 absentee ballot requests forms mailed to these voters by the tribal election board office, 4,103 were valid addresses. Out of the 4,103 forms that reached absentee voters' mailboxes, 1,377 were returned — securing these voters' ballots for the primary and general elections. Of 1,377 ballots mailed to absentee voters, 986 were mailed back in time to be counted on Sept. 22.

Election Board Secretary Tracey Lowe speculates that low voter participation may be attributed, in part, to the fact that there were no races in the Muskogee and Wagoner districts. Election Board Member Angela Diane Meeker said turnout could be blamed on a lack of interest, as the 2001 elections don't involve races for the Nation's most high profile leaders — principal chief and second chief.

"I think it was a combination of voter apathy and [the fact that] some [incumbents] didn't have opponents. I think it was just voter apathy more than anything," Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver said.

The Okmulgee precinct had the largest voter turnout with 212 voters. The second and third largest turnouts were at Eufaula with 201 voters and Wetumka with 185. Lowest voter turnout at precincts were: Hanna with 19 voters; Ryal with 34 voters; and Dustin with 46 voters.

Editor's note: The assistance of Jennifer Taryole, Communications Department, and Betsy Varner, Election Board, in counting precinct voter totals is greatly appreciated.

Mendoza

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wandering period of finding himself and his place in the world.

Mendoza, a screenwriter, recently wrote "Moses of the 45th" — a story that focuses on Muscogee veterans during World War II. The screenplay landed him an invitation to the prestigious Sundance Film Festival in Utah for a showing in 1999.

Mendoza feels Indians are just at the threshold of having their stories told and their talent being discovered. "We are just scratching the surface of our talent and it is up to our young people to carry on and write those stories, write those movie scripts, and begin those acting classes. I know that "Windtalkers" will soon be released and I pray that the non-Indian writers do the codetalkers justice, and perhaps the world might see the great patriotism that our people have shown in our country's time of need."

Editor's note: According to Jeff Platt, manager of Eastland Cinema in Tulsa, Metro Goldwyn Mayer (MGM) has decided to hold back the premiere date of "Windtalkers" to June of 2002. "Probably relative to the current climate following the violence and the terrorist attacks which have affected a lot of movies in this fashion," said Platt.

Clothing

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Muscogee Nation Citizenship Card.

All applications will be processed by mail. To request an application, call 1 (866) 756-3340 or (918) 756-3340.

Letters

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Texas, and Oklahoma City. We have two original players starting from t-ball and have since has gained more good players.

Each year we hold various fund-raisers to assist with expenses for our tournaments and nationals.

We, as a team, the coaches, and the families of the team members thank the Council for its votes and support in assisting these girls. And again, the biggest thank you goes to Rep. Peters for all she has done for the girls.

God Bless you all.

Geronimo Tecumseh, Henryetta

Family member thanks relatives

Editor:

I want to say thank you to all who attended the Bucktrot/Brown Family Reunion and the 81st birthday party for Phoebe Bucktrot Jones.

Amy Jones Yargee, Okemah

Court filings

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Criminal Misdemeanor:
• Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Carrie Warrior
— Count 1: disorderly conduct
• Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Raymond Tiger
— Count 1: public intoxication

Criminal Felony:
• Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Jason Aldridge
— Count 1: driving under suspension
— Count 2: possession of paraphernalia
— Count 3: receiving stolen property

Council

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lishing a Creek Nation permanent fund from tribally owned and managed gaming operations and amending NCA 95-105 — an ordinance authorizing the Muscogee (Creek) Nation travel plaza establishment and financing act of 1995);

voting no were: **Sheridan Pickering**, Creek; and **Tom Pickering**, McIntosh;

• approved (19-1-0) as amended NCA 01-142, approving an attorney contract between **Geoffrey M. Standing Bear, PC**, attorney at law and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation for the next fiscal year;

voting no was **Sheridan Pickering**, Creek;

• approved (19-1-0) NCA 01-143, appropriating funding for an attorney contract with Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer, and Feld law firm;

voting no was **Sheridan Pickering**, Creek;

• approved (19-1-0) NCA 01-145, authorizing the gaming operations board to modify the agreement with Wilbanks and Associates, Inc., for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tulsa Bingo hall;

voting no was **Sheridan Pickering**, Creek;

• approved (20-0-0) as amended NCA 01-146, authorizing a special appropriation to purchase air conditioning units for the elders of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

• approved (19-0-0) as amended NCA 01-124, authorizing a special appropriation for the Mid America Chapter of Paralyzed Veterans of America;

no vote was recorded for **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa, from NCA 01-124 through the duration of the session;

• failed (9-10-0) NCA 01-128, authorizing a special appropriation for the services provided by the Haley Oil Company;

voting no were: **Famous Marshall**, Okfuskee; **Bruce Smith**, Okfuskee; **Bill Fife**, Okfuskee; **David Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Keeper Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Anderson Hale,** Okmulgee; **David Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Dwayne Lowe**, Tukvpvtce; **James McGirt**, Tukvpvtce; and **Barbara Gillespie**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; and

• approved (13-1-0) a Muscogee (Creek) Nation Seal design for the front entrance and new design in the rear entrance;

voting no was **Harley Little**, Muskogee.

Aug. 25 regular session

Absent was **Larry Bible**, Tulsa District

The following veto message was acted upon:

• failed (15-10-0) to override NCA 01-51, repealing NCA 00-136 and reestablishing the academic/extra curricular program under the human development committee of the National Council;

voting yes were (representatives listed by district): **Duke Harjo**, Creek; **Jacob Mosquito**, Creek; **Sheridan Pickering**, Creek; **Wilbur Gouge**, McIntosh; **Thomas McIntosh**, McIntosh; **Tom Pickering**, McIntosh; **Harley Little**, Muskogee; **Bruce Smith**, Okfuskee; **Anderson Hale**, Okmulgee; **Sandra Turner Peters**, Okmulgee; **Nathan Buck**, Tukvpvtce; **Mary Sue Peak**, Tulsa; **Earl King**, Tulsa; **Richard Berryhill**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; and **Barbara Gillespie**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes;

Following voting on the previous veto message, Speaker **Wilbur Gouge**, McIntosh District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

In unfinished business the Council:

• tabled (24-0-0) NCA 01-59, appropriating funds to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Emergency Home Improvement program;

• failed to approve (9-15-0) NCA 01-67, appropriating one hundred thirty-three thousand six hundred fifty dollars ($133,650) to the Mvskoke Elder Council for the establishment of a service center in Okmulgee;

voting no were: **Duke Harjo**, Creek; **Jacob Mosquito**, Creek; **Harley Little**, Muskogee; **Famous Marshall**, Okfuskee; **Bruce Smith**, Okfuskee; **Bill Fife**, Okfuskee; **David Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Keeper Johnson**, Okmulgee; **David Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Dwayne Lowe**, Tukvpvtce; **James McGirt**, Tukvpvtce; **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa; **Jesse Kelley**, Tulsa; **Richard Berryhill**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; and **Barbara Gillespie**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes;

• tabled (23-1-0) NCA 01-123, establishing a nursing home facility task force;

voting no was **Dwayne Lowe**, Tukvpvtce;

• tabled (24-0-0) NCA 01-125, authorizing a special appropriation for the Checotah Indian Community;

• tabled (24-0-0) NCA 01-129, authorizing a special appropriation for the purchase of a big screen television for the elderly residents at Boyce Manor Nursing Home;

In Council business it:

• failed (1-23-0) TR 01-29, developing a new process for the grant/proposal funds received by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

voting no were: **Duke Harjo**, Creek; **Jacob Mosquito**, Creek; **Sheridan Pickering**, Creek; **Thomas McIntosh**, McIntosh; **Tom Pickering**, McIntosh; **Helen Chupco**, Muskogee; **Famous Marshall**, Okfuskee; **Bruce Smith**, Okfuskee; **Bill Fife**, Okfuskee; **David Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Keeper Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Anderson Hale,** Okmulgee; **Sandra Turner Peters**, Okmulgee; **David Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Dwayne Lowe**, Tukvpvtce; **James McGirt**, Tukvpvtce; **Nathan Buck,** Tukvpvtce; **Mary Sue Peak**, Tulsa; **Earl King**, Tulsa; **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa; **Jesse Kelley**, Tulsa; **Richard Berryhill**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; and **Barbara Gillespie**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes;

• approved (14-10-0) as amended TR 01-34, authorizing the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health system to enter into compact agreement with the Indian Health Service;

voting no were: **Duke Harjo**, Creek; **Harley Little**, Muskogee; **David Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Keeper Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Anderson Hale,** Okmulgee; **David Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Dwayne Lowe**, Tukvpvtce; **James McGirt**, Tukvpvtce; **Richard Berryhill**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; and **Barbara Gillespie**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes;

• approved unanimously (24-0-0) TR 01-35, approving the selection of contractors and authorizing the housing authority to execute contracts for rehabilitation repair work of twenty homes;

• approved unanimously (24-0-0) TR 01-36, approving the selection of a contractor and authorizing the housing authority to execute a contract for rehabilitation repair work of six low rent apartments;

• approved (23-0-0) as amended TR 01-37, approving the selection of a contractor and authorizing the housing authority to execute a contract for rehabilitation repair work of 11 homes;

Tom Pickering, McIntosh, did not vote on TR 01-37;

• approved unanimously (24-0-0) TR 01-38, authorizing the principal chief to execute a lease and supplemental lease agreements between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the Bureau of Indian Affairs;

• approved unanimously (24-0-0) NCA 01-141, appropriating funds for an appraisal and survey of the northernmost 20 acres of Muscogee (Creek) Nation property purchased with Native American Housing And Self Determination Act funds;

• approved unanimously (24-0-0) NCA 01-150, authorizing a special appropriation for the Muscogee Creek youth stomp dancers to attend the Ocmulgee Festival stomp dance exhibition in Macon, Ga. on Sept. 14 through 16, 2001;

• approved (13-11-0) as amended NCA 01-151, authorizing the tribal health system to enter into a strategic alliance with the American Indian and Alaska Native division of Quorum Health Resources, LLC;

voting no were: **Duke Harjo**, Creek; **Sheridan Pickering**, Creek; **Harley Little**, Muskogee; **David Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Keeper Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Anderson Hale,** Okmulgee; **David Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Dwayne Lowe**, Tukvpvtce; **James McGirt**, Tukvpvtce; **Richard Berryhill**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; and **Barbara Gillespie**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes;

• approved (21-0-0) NCA 01-152, authorizing a special appropriation for High Spring Baptist Church;

Famous Marshall, Okfuskee; **Bill Fife**, Okfuskee; and **David Nichols**, Okmulgee, did not vote on NCA 01-152;

• approved (21-0-0) NCA 01-153, authorizing an appropriation for Sapulpa Creek Indian Community Center to participate in the annual heritage day Pow Wow on Sept. 29, 2001;

Famous Marshall, Okfuskee; **Bill Fife**, Okfuskee; and **James McGirt**, Tukvpvtce, did not vote on NCA 01-153;

• approved (22-1-0) NCA 01-155, amending NCA 92-81 (An ordinance of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation amending NCA 89-19);

voting no was **Tom Pickering**, McIntosh;

the record reflects that **Bill Fife**, Okfuskee, was excused from the meeting;

• approved (23-0-0) NCA 01-156, authorizing an special appropriation for Hutcheechuppa Indian Baptist Church;

• approved (23-0-0) NCA 01-157, enacting the protection from Domestic and Family Violence Act to be codified as chapter two in title 6 of the Code of Laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and amending subsection C of §102 of NCA 82-30, as amended by NCA 01-109;

• approved (23-0-0) as amended NCA 01-158, authorizing for the burial assistance under established guidelines and to repeal NCA 89-130, NCA 91-56, and NCA 92-147;

• approved (20-2-0) NCA 01-159, authorizing a special appropriation to Indian Fellowship Baptist Church for a fellowship hall and class rooms;

voting no were **Harley Little**, Muskogee; and **Dwayne Lowe**, Tukvpvtce;

Tom Pickering, McIntosh, did not vote on NCA 01-159;

• approved (23-0-0) NCA 01-161, amending NCA 00-125 (approving the comprehensive annual budget for FY 2001 and providing for appropriations), §§ 105 and 106 to increase appropriations for church and ceremonial ground permanent grant program;

• approved (21-2-0) NCA 01-162, authorizing a special appropriation for the Mvskoke Elder Council to attend the Ocmulgee Festival Sept. 14 through 16, 2001 in Macon, Ga. and to visit areas of the Muscogee Nations original homelands;

voting no were **Helen Chupco**, Muskogee; and **Famous Marshall**, Okfuskee;

• approved (23-0-0) as amended NCA 01-163, enacting a marriage law to be codified in title 6, chapter two of the Code of Laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

• approved (23-0-0) NCA 01-164, amending NCA 92-26 (adopting the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Traffic Code) to be codified in title 22 of the Code of Laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

In other business it:

• approved (18-3-1) NCA 01-166;

voting no were: **Famous Marshall**, Okfuskee; **Bruce Smith**, Okfuskee; and **Dwayne Lowe**, Tukvpvtce;

abstaining was **Jacob Mosquito**, Creek.

Reunion

continued from page 7

incides with Wetumka's annual Sucker Day. All family members are urged to attend and bring pictures and a covered dish. The family of each grandchild — the first cousins— are requested to bring a door prize. Relatives of Lewis Marshall from the Coweta, Wagoner, and Tulsa area are especially invited to come and meet distant kinfolks. Food, games, door prizes, singing, and socializing will be the order of the day.

Herron

Lewis and Mandy Herron Marshall were married in 1905 in Wagoner County and moved to the area of Seminole and Hughes counties area in 1911 with their first four children: Mamie — born in 1906; Annie — born in1907; Hepsey — born in 1908; and Jake — born in 1910. Mamie passed away shortly after the move. Lewis relocated his family to seek work in the oilfields. Subsequently, 10 more children were born to this union: sons, Joe, George, Paul, Jim, and Louis Jr.; and daughters, Ella, Martha, Christine, Ruth, and Mary Dean. More than 70 grandchildren were born to the 13 children. Descendants now number in the hundreds. Lewis passed away in 1941 and Mandy passed away in 1965.

Bucktrot/Brown Reunion report

BRISTOW — The Bucktrot/Brown Family Reunion and 81st birthday of Phoebe Bucktrot Jones of Claremore was held on June 16 at the Bucktrot homeplace in Bristow.

Approximately 40 relatives were present. Jones is the daughter of Wysena Madison Bucktrot and Annie Da-Ke-Sa-Co-Contaney Brown. She is is the oldest among the seven siblings: Wade; Alvin; Tony; Alice; Hazel; and Ruth.

Jones

Among relatives attending was Ruth Crittenden of Stilwell, Jones' only remaining sister. She is one of the few remaining full-blood Euchee.

She is a member of Sand Creek Ceremonial Ground.

Hanna school supplies donation

submitted photo

Hanna Indian Community members are pictured during their donation of school supplies to Hanna School Superintendent John Woods, second from left. Also pictured are, left to right, Benata Buckley, community member; Woods; Naomi Harjo, community reporter; and Lela Pigeon, Johnson O'Malley Program Coodinator.

"Power Puff " girls complete first season

A three year tee-ball team, comprised of numerous tribal citizens, completed their first season of playing ball. The girls are, left to right, front row: Cheyenne Factor; Maya Watson; Michelle Dunn; Sydney Grogan; Anae Wise; and Mykaylia Frank; middle row — Alaysia Williams; Kaley Berry; Kaitlyn Factor; Katelin Candler; Olivia Dancey; and Hanna Gouge; back row — coaches, Nichol Green; Ellie Factor; and Jenna Gouge.

IIM

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Goslin, Rachel (Hawkins); Gouge, Elisha J; Gouge, Thompson; Gray, Lucy (Scott); Green, Virginia (Scott); Haikey, Alonzo; Hale, Norma (Miller); Harjo Jr, Jim B; Harjo, Adam; Harjo, Alex; Harjo, Ceaetta; Harjo, Darcille (Freeman); Harjo, Evelyn J (Anderson); Harjo, Francis; Harjo, Harry J; Harjo, Henry L; Harjo, John J; Harjo, Katie L (Tiger); Harjo, Leah A; Harjo, Lindia M (Gouge); Harjo, Lucinda; Harjo, Richard; Harjo, Sundea; Harjo, Teddy; Harjo, Thelma R (Chalakee); Harjo, Vikki R; Harjochee, Timmy J; Harper, Anna M; Harry, Simon N; Haynes, Martha (Berryhill); Henderson, Shirley; Henneha, Jesse R; Hill, Commey; Hill, Levi; Hill, Penny S (Baker); Hill, Solomon; Hill, Thomas; Hobia, Wilburn L; Hogshooter, Regina (Revis); Holahta, Louis; Holahta, Regina; Holahta, Timmy; Howard, Martha J (Sullivan); Hyslop, Peggy A (Roberts); Isham, Arlene L; Isham, David B; Isham, Jerome A; Isham, Michael R; Isham, Richard G; Isham, Susan M; Isham, Theodore; Jack, Richard L; Jackson, David L; Jacobs, Myrtle (Jones); Jimmerson, Lee E; Jimmerson, Lee E (Jones); Johnson, Fannie (Harjo); Johnson, Frank; Johnson, Frank; Johnson, Joseph E; Johnson, Little Tommy; Johnson, Melissa A (Baker); Johnson, Nathan; Johnson, Rowena M; Johnson, Ruby L; Johnson, Shirley A (Deere); Jones, Bobby R; Jones, Dorothy J (Pierce); Jones, Phoebe (Bucktrot); Joshua, Janie A (Bear); Kiddy, Robyn K (Baker); King, Anna (Jacobs); King, David; King, Earl; King, Leo; Knight, Jackson P; Lannine, Melvina (McIntosh); Leclaire, Lucille F; Lee, Alice (Grayson); Lee, Sylvia Y (Murphy); Leist, Mary (Gray); Leitka, Billye M; Leitka, Virginia; Lewis, Legus L; Lindsey, Eddie L; Lindsey, Eddie L; Lindsey, Fred; Lindsey, Gretchen M (Wind); Lindsey, Kristine; Lombard, Ila D; Long, Grayson D (Hill); Looney, Ida (Watson); Lowe II, Jackson; Lowe, Franklin T; Lowe, Regina K (Wind); Lunsford, Billy G; Lunsford, Janet L; Mahee, Rachelle D; Main, Donna M (Beaver); Majors, Gary E; Manley, David; Manley, Frances A; Manley, Frank A; Manley, Jonas N; Martin Jr, Tony; Martinez, Amanda J (Yahola); McCoy, Luallyn L; McDermott, Benny; McGeeley Jr, Louis; McGeeley, Jennie; McIntosh, Cornelius L; McIntosh, Lester; McIntosh, Lydia; McLaughlin, Alice (Goat); Mealer, Lovey P (Jones); Measintubby, Melissa S; Mehlhorn, Kim K (Baker); Mendoza, Robert R; Merrell, Larry; Miller, Lawrence O; Miller, Mary L; Miller, Richard M; Mills, Wanda J (Berryhill); Morgan, Pauline (Frye); Morgan, Richard; Moses, Etta M (Fixico); Poole, Minnie (Lindsey); Price, Jeannetta (Hill); Proctor, Pauline C (Starr); Proctor, Woody; Provost, Irene (Archer); Ramirez, Rachel (Bear); Randall, Richard; Reed, Jennie (Tiger); Reininger, Sylvia S (Sulphur); Revis, Faith A; Revis, Harley; Robison, Barney C; Sampson Sr, William; Sands, Alvin; Schenck, Carol A (Hood); Scott, Cheryl A (Coonhead); Scott, James M; Scott, Joe M; Scott, Taylor B; Secondine, Estelen; Selsor, John L; Shaw, Gwyneth D (Wilson); Shawnee, Gerry S; Simpson, Ida (Gouge); Skeeter, Joe L; Smith, Eula; Smith, Louise (Tiger); Sorgee, Lula (Moore); Spencer, Willie; Stanford, Thelma (Smith); Starr, Chief G; Starr, Jimmie; Stewart Estate, Terresa (Bruner); Stokes, Leveonne M (Noon); Stroud, Roger W; Stroud, Walter D; Sugar, Curtis W; Sugar, Sallie (Hicks); Sullivan, Newman; Sullivan, Stoddard; Switch, Crystal R; Switch, Gregory A; Switch, Jason M; Taylor, Carole; Taylor, Charles D; Taylor, Cornelius E; Taylor, Imogene; Taylor, Lucreeta; Taylor, Lucreeta S (Anderson); Taylor, Mari G; Taylor, William K; Tebe, Lloyd; Thomas, Adam; Thomas, Betty; Thomas, Sammie R; Thompson, Francis L; Thompson, Jamie M (Johnson); Thompson, Katherine H; Thrift, Cledith (Lindsey); Throckmorton, William D; Tiger Jr, Taylor; Tiger, Ernest R; Tiger, Geneva; Tiger, Lucinda (Lewis); Tiger, Tom L; Tiger, Waxin C; Toahty, Juanita M; Tolbert, Eugene; Transue, Juanita (McIntosh); Tsoodle, Cherry (Francis); Unah, Amber J; Unah, Waylon G; Vela, Nakomis (Fixico); Venus, Cicil; Wagoner, Karen (Wolfe); Walker, Austin; Walker, Jackie (Francis); Walker, Willie P. (Evans); Waller, Stephen; Washburn, Marie (Yarborough); Washington, Jerry; Watt, Betty (Harjo); Wattie, Alice (Whitlow); Weatherly, Regena A (Berryhill); Webb, Peggy Y (Yarholar); Wesley, Michael W; White, Kizzie (Conner); Whitehorn, Joni A; Whitehorn, Joni Ardele R; Whitlow, Edward; Williams, Eddie; Williams, Susie; Williams, Wynema J; Willie, Maryland (Harjo); Willis, Julie A (Baker); Wilson, Alan B; Wilson, Wendell B; Wood, Inella; Wood, Roy; Wood, Tim; Woods Jr, Charles R; Woods, Katie L (Tiger); Wyllie, Mona L (Freeman); Yahola, Gary; Yahola, John R; Yahola, Ronald; Yahola, Steven; Yerby, Rebecca K (Fixico); Zamora, Lewis P; Zink, Leona (Harjo).

The Muscogee Nation News

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Fourth Annual Muscogee Film Festival being held at Gilcrease Museum

TULSA — The Fourth Annual Muscogee Film Festival, an event of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Department, is being held Nov. 16 and 17 at Gilcrease Museum Auditorium, 1400 Gilcrease Museum Road.

The festival showcases films produced by Native Americans as well as films with native themes and actors.

With November being designated as National Native American Heritage Month, as well as Nov. 19 having been officially recognized as Oklahoma Native American Day, it is timely and appropriate to expose Oklahomans to good, Native American produced films, Gerald Wofford, festival coordinator, said.

"Christmas in the Clouds"

All proceeds from the festival benefit the Muscogee Nation Communications Department-administered Native American Film Scholarship fund — an award to be given to an outstanding Na-

please see **FILM**..., page 7

Muscogee Film Festival features "The Homecoming of Jimmy Whitecloud"

November general election decides Muscogee National Council runoffs

OKMULGEE — The final seven of 26 Muscogee National Council seats have been filled as a result of the Nov. 3 general election.

Four of five incumbents in runoff races lost their bids for reelection.

The following accounts for total absentee and precinct ballots cast; (I) indicates incumbent.

Creek District
Seat B:
Duke M. Harjo (I) — 108
Phyllis Warrington — 115

McIntosh District
Seat C:
Thomas McIntosh (I) — 236
Sue Ann Bear Dalgarn — 163

please see **RUNOFF**..., page 3

Muscogee People

Maskoke World War I veteran among 17,000 Native American soldiers that served country that did not recognize them as citizens

by Gerald Wofford

By the end of World War I, Native Americans in the military service numbered at 17,000, although were not considered U.S. citizens.

Samuel P. Anderson was among these thousands of American Indian soldiers who, based on race, doubled the national average of those who answered the call to serve.

Jorene Anderson Coker, his daughter, said he had no qualms about entering the service. "He and many more Creek boys like him were ready to fight; I guess it was just the warrior mentality in them."

When Anderson arrived in Europe, he saw action on the battlefields in France. One specific battle Anderson was involved in was the Battle of Meuse-Argonne. It was one of the bloodiest battles of the first World War and played a decid-

Richmond Anderson, pictured left, with cousin Samuel P. Anderson, right.

The back of the photograph is inscribed:

"March 18, 1918 — Rich and Sam at Muskogee, on our way to enlist. Keep this until I return. Keep it for remembrance, ha-ha. I'll come back next year, you know I am a pretty wise fellow. My last day as civilian 3-18-18."

ing factor in its outcome. With fresh U.S. troops called to the front battle lines and tired German troops suffering from the influenza epidemic, the Battle of Meuse-Argonne helped usher in the armistice on Nov. 11, 1918, essentially ending the war.

Coker says the war had a devastating effect on her father, both mentally and spiritually. "Unfortunately, my father and others like him drank a lot a lot when they returned after the service. I guess the effects of the war lay upon their minds greatly. Anyone that comes back from combat is a changed person."

Anderson passed away in February of 1969 and with him passed great knowledge of his heroic service in the first World War. Coker, who would serve in the second World War, said

please **ANDERSON**..., page 3

Letters to the editor

Representative-elect appreciates votes

Editor:

I would like to say mvto to the voters of Creek District for supporting me in my bid for Seat C during the Muscogee National Council primary election.

It was a privilege to represent the citizens of Creek District during my term in office — during the 10th session — and I am looking forward to representing them again. I encourage citizens to continue their interest in tribal government by attending National Council committee meetings, planning and regular sessions, etc.

Me and my family wish all citizens, and their families, good health and prosperity in the days to come.

Roger Barnett, Bristow

Candidate thanks supporters for votes

Editor:

I, David "Tiny" Hale, want to thank the people that voted for me during the primary election for Muscogee National Council. I will forever be grateful for the confidence in me that people expressed through their votes of support.

Again, I appreciate those that voted for me. Thank you very much.

David Hale, Okemah

Council member expresses appreciation to voters

Editor:

I would like to take thank my constituents who voted for me in the election for Okmulgee District, seat D. It has been a great pleasure to serve the people of my Nation. The work has been rewarding in that many projects have been funded and persons from our tribe, both young and elderly, have been helped. It has been difficult to witness the problems of our Nation that are not being addressed. The greatest of these problems are: health care; adequate and decent living conditions; protection and freedom in the workplace for tribal employees; and commerce and economic development for the future of our young. These issues are my battlecry. The two more years that you have so graciously given me will be my fight song. If we are afforded life, certainly I am married to the just causes of our tribe. Thank you again for your confidence. Pray for me as a warrior; pray for our Nation to be strong in the days ahead, whatever may come. In the words of the ancients who have traveled before us, may god bless the Muscogee peoples.

Sandra Turner Peters, Okmulgee

Dustin city council member thanks tribe for water

Editor:

I would like to thank the Muscogee (Creek) Nation for all their help by providing water to the Dustin community and helping us through this crisis.

A special thanks also goes to Donna Martin, Muscogee Nation Community Development, Will Freeman, executive director, as well as Tom Stewart, community development manager.

I would like to point out that the City of Dustin is comprised of a 50 percent Indian population as well as an 85 percent Indian school population. Thank you.

Cleo Robison, Dustin

Legal notices

Published in *The Muscogee Nation News*, Volume 30, Issue 11, November 2001

Case No. AD 2001-07

In the matter of the adoption of Baby Boy Ramirez

Date of birth: April 9, 2001,

A minor child

Notice and order setting hearing to terminate parental rights

To: The unknown father of Baby Boy Ramirez, a minor child,

You are hereby notified that on the 3rd day of May 2001, Jerry J. Little and Debbie Kay Little filed herein their verified Alias Petition for Adoption of the above-named child of which you are alleged to be the natural father and Leslie Danielle Nicole Ramirez is the natural mother, and their Application for Order of this Court terminating your parental rights and determining that your consent to their adoption of the child, Baby Boy Ramirez, is unnecessary. Petitioners request that the Court so adjudge and that it determine the said child be eligible for adoption without your consent and to terminate your parental rights. Petitioners claim entitlement to such relief pursuant to Title 6, Section 602, Code of Laws of the Muscogee Nation for the reason to-wit: That the minor child was born out of wedlock and was placed for adoption within ninety days of birth, and that you have made no attempt to see the child, you have failed to establish any parental rights, you have exercised no duties towards the child, and you have failed to contribute any support for the child.

Take further notice that:

1. A hearing is scheduled upon the Application to Terminate Paternal Rights for December 3rd at 9 a.m. in the Courtroom of the Honorable Judge Patrick Moore, in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation at Okmulgee, Oklahoma. The purpose of the hearing will be to determine whether your paternal rights should be terminated pursuant to Title 6, Sec-

please see **LEGAL NOTICES**..., page 7

Second opinion

by Second Chief A.D. Ellis

Greetings again to all Muscogee (Creek) citizens. Each month passes and the work load seems to increase accordingly. Last month I had the opportunity to speak to a large group of students and adults at the Northeast District Methodist Center camp grounds at Preston during the tribal Tobacco Health Education Committee's Camp Smokeout 2001. Our young people need to know the dangers of tobacco and drugs and be given the knowledge to resist temptations.

Now to my current agenda: on the 25th of October a group of World War II Navy Veterans visited the tribal complex to see our veterans' memorial monument. These veterans, from throughout the U.S., served abroad the ship U.S.S. Alcyone; their recent visit marked their 5th annual reunion. They also toured the tribal complex and Creek Council House Museum.

In October Council Speaker **Wilbur Gouge** and myself attended a meeting with leaders of the Tribal Towns Center in Okemah. This group has made great progress in fixing up the center. The center is used by the tribal towns and ceremonial grounds for meetings and fund raisers such as bingo and food sales, etc. On the way to Okemah, I stopped at the Montesoma Church road. I was very impressed with the new pavement being installed by our tribal roads program. I know tribal citizens who use this road are very happy. As our Nation builds these roads, we realize they are used mostly by non-Indians and only benefit a small percentage of Muscogee people. Hopefully, signs will be erected attributing the construction of the road to "Muscogee (Creek) Nation." Non-Indians often remark that we pay no taxes, costing public schools and roads badly-needed tax dollars — just the opposite. Muscogee Nation builds and funds many roads, bridges, and school projects, but fails to get credit for its contributions.

On Oct. 20 the 15th Annual Council Oak Tree Ceremony was held. Our thanks goes to Tulsa Creek Indian Community and their staff for the hard work put into this ongoing historic event which is held near downtown Tulsa. It was special for me to be one of the ceremony speakers as a member of Locvpokv Tribal Town and a descendant of the Muscogean people that reestablished their fire at the site following removal. Because of the contributions of the historic **Perryman** family, this tribal town became the City of Tulsa.

The tribal Veterans Day observance is scheduled to begin at 11 a.m., Nov. 12. The program will be held at the tribal Veterans Memorial Monument located on the tribal capitol complex. Plan on attending and supporting our tribal veterans.

Quote of the month — *The most precious gift we leave behind are the lessons we teach and the examples we set for others. Because of that, no life is wasted.*

Mvto.

The Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to ***The Muscogee Nation News***, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of every month.** ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Standard Class A from Okmulgee, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

Stephanie Barnett, managing editor
Gerald Wofford, photography
Denise Jacobs, page layout
Jennifer Taryole, circulation

Muscogee National Council overview

OKMULGEE — The following consists of actions of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council conducted at: a Sept. 6 special session; Sept. 25 emergency session; and Oct. 9 special session.

Sept. 6 special session

Absent was: **Sheridan Pickering**, Creek District; **Jacob Mosquito**, Creek District; **Thomas McIntosh**, McIntosh District; **Famous Marshall**, Okfuskee District; **Bruce Smith**, Okfuskee District; **Dwayne Lowe**, Tukvpvtce District; **Larry Bible**, Tulsa District; **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa District; and **Jesse Kelley**, Tulsa District.

In Council business it:

• voted to convene as committee of the whole;

Speaker **Wilbur Gouge**, McIntosh District, relinquished the chair to Sergeant at Arms **Richard Berryhill**;

• as committee of the whole it passed to full Council: NCA 01-167; NCA 01-168; NCA 01-169; NCA 01-170; and NCA 01-172;

Berryhill turned the chair back over to **Gouge** who conducted the meeting and did not vote;

The Council:

• approved (14-2-0) NCA 01-167, authorizing a special appropriation for five women leaders of Morris Indian Mission to attend the "World Celebration for Women" Sept. 19 through 22 in Houston, Texas;

voting yes were (representatives listed by district): **Duke Harjo**, Creek; **Helen Chupco**, Muskogee; **Harley Little**, Muskogee; **Tom Pickering**, McIntosh; **Dave Lewis**; Okmulgee; **Keeper Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Anderson Hale**, Okmulgee; **Sandra T. Peters**, Okmulgee; **David Nichols**, Okmulgee; **James McGirt**, Tukvpvtce; **Nathan Buck**, Tukvpvtce; **Mary Sue Peak**, Tulsa; **Earl King**, Tulsa; and **Richard Berryhill**, Wagoner;

• approved unanimously (16-0-0) NCA 01-168, approving the comprehensive annual budget for fiscal year 2002 and providing for appropriations;

• approved unanimously (16-0-0) NCA 01-169, approving the principal chief's three year plan to program tribal judgement funds for fiscal year 2002, 2003, and 2004;

• approved unanimously (16-0-0) NCA 01-170, appropriating funds and authorizing the expenditure of funds for the FY 2001 Indian Community Development Block Grant; and

• approved unanimously (16-0-0) NCA 01-172, appropriating funds to pay for increased insurance costs for chartered communities.

Sept. 25 emergency session

Absent were: **Sheridan Pickering**, Creek District; **Jacob Mosquito**, Creek District; **Tom Pickering**, McIntosh District; **Thomas McIntosh**, McIntosh District; **Famous Marshall**, Okfuskee District; **Dave Lewis**, Okmulgee District; and **Dwayne Lowe**, Tukvpvtce District;

The Council:

• voted unanimously (19-0-0) to let Principal Chief **R. Perry Beaver's** veto of Tribal Resolution 01-35 — authorizing the housing authority to execute contracts for rehabilitation repair work of twenty homes — stand;

voting yes were (representatives listed by district): **Duke Harjo**, Creek; **Helen Chupco**, Muskogee; **Harley Little**, Muskogee; **Wilbur Gouge**, McIntosh; **Bruce Smith**, Okfuskee; **Bill Fife**, Okfuskee; **Keeper Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Anderson Hale**, Okmulgee; **Sandra T. Peters**; Okmulgee; **David Nichols**, Okmulgee; **James McGirt**, Tukvpvtce; **Nathan Buck**, Tukvpvtce; **Larry Bible**, Tulsa; **Mary Sue Peak**, Tulsa; **Earl King**, Tulsa; **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa; **Jesse Kelley**, Tulsa; **Richard Berryhill**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; and **Barbara Gillespie**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes.

Speaker **Wilbur Gouge** conducted the meeting and did not vote.

In Council business it:

• approved unanimously (18-0-0) TR 01-47, approving the selection of contractors and authorizing the housing authority to execute contracts for rehabilitation repair work of twenty homes.

Oct. 9 special session

Absent were: **Duke Harjo**, Creek District; **Jacob Mosquito**, Creek District; **Harley Little**, Muskogee District; **Mary Sue Peak**, Tulsa District; and **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa District.

In Council business it:

• voted to convene as committee of the whole;

Speaker **Wilbur Gouge**, McIntosh District, relinquished the chair to Sergeant at Arms **Richard Berryhill**;

• as committee of the whole it passed to full Council: NCA 01-191, TR 01-50, TR 01-51, TR 01-52 and TR 01-53;

Berryhill turned the chair back over to **Gouge** who conducted the meeting and did not vote;

The Council:

• approved unanimously (20-0-0) NCA 01-191, authorizing a special appropriation for **Joshua T. Anderson** to attend the Indian National Finals Rodeo in Billings, Mont. on October 25 through 28;

voting yes were: **Sheridan Pickering**, Creek; **Helen Chupco**, Muskogee; **Tom Pickering**, McIntosh; **Thomas McIntosh**, McIntosh; **Famous Marshall**, Okfuskee; **Bruce Smith**, Okfuskee; **Bill Fife**, Okfuskee; **Dave Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Keeper Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Anderson Hale**, Okmulgee; **Sandra T. Peters**, Okmulgee; **David Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Dwayne Lowe**, Tukvpvtce; **James McGirt**, Tukvpvtce; **Nathan Buck**, Tukvpvtce; **Larry Bible**, Tulsa; **Earl King**, Tulsa; **Jesse Kelley**, Tulsa; **Richard Berryhill**, Wagoner; and **Barbara Gillespie**, Wagoner;

• approved as amended (20-0-0) TR 01-50, authorizing the gaming operations authority board to accept the bid package and commencement of public bid for the addition to the Creek Nation Tulsa Bingo;

• approved unanimously (20-0-0) TR 01-51, authorizing the gaming operations authority board to enter into an agreement between L & L contractors and Services, Inc. and Creek Nation Tulsa Bingo;

• approved unanimously (20-0-0) TR 01-52, authorizing the principal chief to execute a design-build agreement between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and SGS, L.L.C.;

• approved unanimously as amended (20-0-0) TR 01-53, authorizing the principal chief to enter a financing agreement with Bank One to fund the construction of an office building in Muskogee; and

• approved unanimously (20-0-0) to bring back NCA 01-191, with the funding source identified from the interest on the permanent fund account.

Council Oak Tree Ceremony

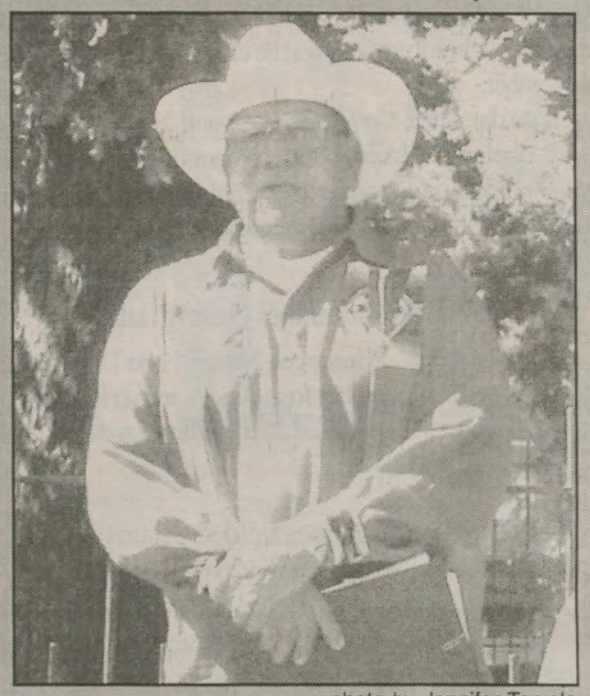


photo by Jennifer Taryole

Nuyaka Tribal Town Empvnayv Eunice Hill speaks at the Council Oak Tree Ceremony held Oct. 20 at Oak Tree Park in Tulsa.

Anderson

continued from page 1

her father would never directly, or even in passing, talk about the war.

Years after his death, Coker received word that the French government was seeking to honor all American servicemen who were involved in the first World War. The French wanted to show their gratitude by giving American Veterans a Certificate of Appreciation since the majority of all World War I battles were fought on French soil. The French were seeking all living American veterans of the first World War, but Coker decided she would contact French authorities about her father, hoping that they would consider her request. The French authorities happily obliged and Coker accepted the certificate in her father's honor. "It is written in French, so I don't know exactly what it says," said Coker who believes her father would feel good about the honor. "I think he would have been glad to have [received] it. My father was always appreciative for anything that was done for him."

Anderson eventually rose to the rank of first lieutenant during his military career in the U.S. Army. When he returned to civilian life he worked for the Bureau of Indian Affairs where he served as Indian agent in the Okmulgee area. In 1924, Anderson and all other American Indians officially were made U.S. citizens.

Runoff

continued from page 1

Okfuskee District

Seat A:

Phillip W. Coon — 76

Nancy S. (West) Watson — 119

Okmulgee District

Seat C:

George B. Almerigi — 235

Anderson Hale (I) — 103

Tukvpvtce District

Seat B:

Thomas Yahola — 227

David Jimboy — 201

Seat C:

Nathan Buck (I) — 141

Lola Fields — 298

Tulsa District

Seat B:

Mary Sue Peak (I) — 143

Cherrah De'Ann Ridge-Quiett — 225

Tribal programs and offices close for holidays

OKMULGEE — Programs and offices of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, as well as the Muscogee Nation Division of Health Administration, will be closed on several dates in November.

Those dates are: Nov. 12; 19; 22; and 23.

All tribal and DHA offices and programs, including health centers, elderly nutrition centers, child development centers and Head Start Centers will be closed also.

Food distribution announces closing dates

OKMULGEE — Muscogee Nation Food Distribution will be closed in November for holidays and an inventory.

The program will be closed on the following dates: Nov. 12; 19; 22; 23; and 30.

Social services announces field site dates

OKMULGEE — Muscogee Nation Social Services Department is accepting applications for general assistance at field sites in: Eufaula; Holdenville; Muskogee; Okemah; and Sapulpa.

The field sites and dates are:

• Eufaula Indian Community Center, 800 Forest Ave. — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., Nov. 15 and Dec. 6;

• Sapulpa Indian Health Center, 1125 E. Cleveland — applications will be accepted from 1 to 3 p.m., Nov. 15 and Dec. 6;

• Holdenville Indian Community Center, 224 E. Poplar — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., Nov. 20 and Dec. 4; and

• Okemah Indian Community Center, 1100 S. Woody Guthrie St. — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., Nov. 21 and Dec. 5.

Energy assistance may not be applied for at these regularly scheduled site visits.

Energy assistance applications to be accepted

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee Nation Social Services Department will begin accepting applications for its tribal energy assistance and Low Income Home Energy Assistance programs in December and January.

Past participants will be notified by mail of the appointment schedule. Social services will begin taking walk-in appointments on Jan. 7.

The following information is required to complete the application process:

• Certificate Degree of Indian Blood card (CDIB) or tribal citizenship card;

• Social Security card;

• income verification for each household member; and

• a heating bill in the applicant or spouse's name.

Additional information will be required for students ages 18 years or older and individuals caring for minor children other than their own.

For more information, contact the social services department at (918) 756-8700 or 1 (800) 482-1979, ext. 279.

Child care accepting applications for clothing

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Child Care is still accepting requests for applications for school clothing assistance.

To be eligible:

• students must be enrolled members of the Muscogee Nation;

• students must be enrolled in grades kindergarten through 12;

• students in grades nine through 12 must provide proof of school enrollment;

• household income must be within income guidelines;

• parent[s], guardian[s], or primary caregiver[s] must provide one month's income verification (i.e., check stub or a copy of the first page of 2000 income tax return). If unemployed, a notarized statement must be submitted;

• if the applicant is not the parent, but is acting on the parent's behalf, documentation in the form of a custody order or a notarized statement — from the parent giving the applicant permission to apply on behalf of the child[ren] — must be provided; and

• applicant must submit copies of each child's Muscogee Nation Citizenship Card.

All applications will be processed by mail. To request an application, call 1 (866) 756-3340 or (918) 756-3340.

Development program awards swines to Muscogee youth

OKMULGEE — Eight youth from throughout tribal jurisdictional boundaries have been named recipients of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation 4-H Swine Program.

A special allocation from tribal funds, that supports the tribal 4-H program, is affording each participant one feeder pig and 600 pounds of feed. In this project area, the 4-H member is responsible for the proper care and nutrition of the animal. In the spring the participant will also be expected to show the animal in a swine show designed especially for recipients of this award.

The recipients are: Nikki Bear of Castle; Jonathan Billy of Wetumka; Ronnie Fulks of Kellyville; Anna Grammer of Morris; Alice Harjo of Dustin; Kari Hutchins of Kellyville; Tiffany Treat of Beggs; and Ethan Whitehouse of Sapulpa.

Each year 4-H participants and volunteers are requested to reenroll in order to maintain accurate records. Additionally, parent and volunteer training are scheduled to assist with leadership and program development as well as provide adults the opportunity to become state certified. Upcoming training sessions include: Nov. 10, horse club training in Holdenville; Nov. 13, volunteer training in Tulsa County at no cost; Dec. 1, beef clinic — more details are available at Hughes County Extension Office; and Dec. 10, project leader training in Kellyville with a $5 registration fee due Dec. 1.

submitted photo

Muscogee citizens Sherri Treat of Beggs, third from left, and Becky Dillsaver of Morris, fourth from left, helped kickoff a yearlong celebration of 100 years of 4-H by planting a redbud tree at a Youth In Action retreat held near Gore. Also pictured are: Jamie Littlefield, tribal extension educator; Lavada Anthony; Treat; Dillsaver; Angela McKay; Dionnah Greene; and Brenda Miller.

Enrollment for the tribal 4-H program is open to youth ranging in ages nine to 19 who reside within the boundaries of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Youth ages five to eight can also be involved in a noncompetitive manner as Cloverbuds.

For more information, contact Extension Educator Jamie Littlefield at (918) 756-8700, ext. 610 or toll free at (800) 482-1979.

Her office is located in the human development building on the tribal capitol complex in Okmulgee.

Committee of Osten Veterans Day observance

OKMULGEE — The Committee of Osten are overseeing a tribal Veterans Day observance to be held at the Muscogee Veterans Memorial Monument, tribal capital complex, beginning at 11 a.m., Nov. 12.

The keynote speaker will be tribal District Court Judge Patrick Moore of Okmulgee.

In the event of inclement weather, the observance will be held at the Okmulgee Elderly Nutrition Center located in the human development building on the capital complex.

Interim housing director named

OKMULGEE — An executive order signed by Chief R. Perry Beaver on Oct. 17 — as well as an earlier resolution approved by the Housing Authority Board of Commissioners — has appointed tribal citizen Emanuel Morgan as interim executive director.

Morgan previously held the position of administrator of the tribal service program planning department of the Native American Housing And Self Determination Act.

"The board wanted to take another direction in housing," said Board of Commissioners Chair George Tiger in regard to the termination of former executive director James Walters.

Interim lighthorse chief named

OKMULGEE — Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver designated tribal citizen David Washington Cummings as interim Lighthorse Administration Chief effective Nov. 5.

Cummings was formerly a field officer. Former Chief Marsey Scott stepped down because of his desire to return to work in the field.

Flu shots not readily available

OKLAHOMA CITY — Oklahoma's health departments, nursing homes, and many private doctors' offices are receiving news that longer than expected delays in influenza vaccine supplies will occur this fall.

"Since it takes about two weeks for the flu vaccine to be fully effective, and flu activity in Oklahoma does not peak until January or February, we are still encouraging the public to get their flu shots as soon as they are available in their area," said State Health Commissioner Dr. Leslie Beitsch.

The delay is attributed to undisclosed manufacturing difficulties with at least one of the producers. Only two manufacturers are producing flu vaccine this year.

Distribution of shots will be similar to last year, with priority for the early vaccine being given to nursing homes. Health officials recommend that the most vulnerable people get vaccinated first. At-risk persons include:

• senior citizens aged 65 and over;

• persons with chronic conditions such as heart or lung problems, diabetes, or asthma;

• women who are in their second or third trimester of pregnancy; and

• health care workers who provide direct patient care.

Health officials also recommend that persons age 65 and older and those with chronic health conditions get a pneumococcal vaccination to reduce pneumonia resulting from influenza or other respiratory illnesses.

Prostate cancer common among men

OKLAHOMA CITY — Prostate cancer is the second most commonly diagnosed cancer among men, following skin cancer. In Oklahoma, prostate cancer is also the sec-

please see **NOTICES**..., page 8

Education

Wetumka girl named national award winner

WETUMKA — Wetumka High School student Erica Fish was recently named a United States Achievement Academy National Award Winner for her accomplishments in speech and drama.

Fish

She was nominated for the award by her teacher, Robin Gann.

Fish will appear in the United States Achievement Academy official yearbook which is published nationally. The academy recognizes fewer than 10 percent of all American high school students.

She is the daughter of Judith Fish and the granddaughter of Maxine Harjo, both of Wetumka.

Administrator training program seeks Indians

NORMAN — American Indian Research and Development, Inc. has been awarded a $260,614 grant from the U.S. Education Department, Office of Indian Education, to fund the first of a three year school Administrator Training Program at Oklahoma State University in Stillwater.

The program will provide 24 American Indian education professionals scholarships and the opportunity to earn a master of science degree in education at OSU during the first two years of the grant. Induction activities will occur in the third year. Continuation of the second and third year of the program are dependent on successful performance and availability of funds.

American Indian Research and Development, Inc. will be seeking American Indian individuals who are certified teachers with at least two years teaching experience as participants in the program. Recruitment for the program is currently underway. Classes are scheduled to begin at OSU in January 2002. Selected participants will attend full time for one year. They must sign a payback agreement to work in schools with significant numbers of Indian students for the same length of time that they are in the program or pay back in cash the cost of their education to the federal government.

For more information, contact Stuart A. Tonemah, SATP Project Director, at: (405) 364-0656; e-mail sat@coxinet.net; or by mail at 2233 W. Lindsey, Suite 118, Norman, OK 73069.

Okeman places third in world horseshoe championships

HIBBING, Minn. — Erik Jon Harjo of Okemah placed third in the Class C Division of the World Horseshoe Championships held last June.

Harjo is the state horseshoe pitching champion in the junior division. The state champion title made him eligible to participate in the World Championship Horseshoe Tournament.

Harjo

He belongs to the Wind Clan and Nuyaka Ceremonial Ground. He is the grandson of Pat and Simeon Johnson of Okemah and the late Albert Harjo and Betty Butler Scott, Okmulgee. Harjo is the great-grandson of Christine Henneha of Okemah.

Native American Marines honor Muscogee tribal citizens

CARNEGIE — The Native American Marine Corps Veterans Association (NAMCVA) recently honored full-blood tribal citizens Lyle Deere and Harry Long during its preseason 226th Marine Corps Birthday Celebration Dance and at an honor meal, respectively.

Deere was honored at the NAMCVA's preseason celebration dance held on Sept. 9 at Red Buffalo Hall. Deere represented his father, Rev. Kenneth Deere, Columbia, MD., who was unable to attend. Both men are members of NAMCVA.

L. Deere, of Muskogee, is the vice president of Muscogee Indian Community. He is also the son of Joann Deere of Albuquerque, N.M. and the grandson of Melissa Deere of Holdenville and Fannie Chalakee of Coweta.

Long

The association honored Long, as well as Glendell Klinekole, during meal held Oct. 8 at the Kiowa Complex Senior Citizens Center. Long is a Marine Corp veteran — Second Marine Division — who served during World War II.

In March 1942, Long enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps. The following May, he reported to San Diego for boot camp, then in August of 1942 he went overseas for combat duty.

Long was a gunner, operating a .50 caliber and .20 millimeter machine guns. He was part of the Special Weapons Battalion and participated in the Invasion of Tarawa and Okinawa; he also fought in Guam. Long was on Okinawa when the war ended. After being discharged from service in December 1945, he began a pastoral ministry. In May of 1947, he married the former Mulsey Tarpalechee. They have six children: Larry; Beverly; Stephen; Taylor; Gary; and Starr; eight grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. In 1987, he retired from the ministry.

submitted photo

Pictured, left to right, are Native American Marine Corp Veterans Association members: Robert Poolaw; Cliff Reeder; Lyle Deere; Sammy "Tonkei" White; and Don Horse.

Long is 80 years old and resides his home in Muskogee. He still officiates at some baptisms, weddings, and funerals.

He has one daughter, Beverly, one son, Taylor, and one grandson, Richard, who have served in the Marine Corps. Another son, Stephen, served in the U.S. Army.

Ford Foundation Fellowship for minorities

WASHINGTON — Approximately 60 predoctoral, 40 dissertation, and 30 postdoctoral fellowships are being sponsored by the Ford Foundation and administered by the National Research Council.

Requirements are include individuals who are: U.S. citizens or national; Native American Indian, Mexican American, Alaska Native, Native Pacific Islander, black/African American, or Puerto Rican; and planning a career in teaching and research at the college or university level.

Stipends and allowances include: predoctoral — $16,000 to the fellow, institutional allowance of $7,500 for three years; dissertation — $24,000 for one year; postdoctoral — $35,000 for one year, $3,000 travel and relocation allowance, $2,000 cost–of–research allowance, $2,500 employing institution allowance which is to be matched by employing institution.

Application deadlines dates are: predoctoral — Nov. 19; dissertation — Dec. 3; and postdoctoral — Jan. 7.

For more information and applications, contact: Fellowship Office, TJ-2041, National Research Council, 2101 Constitution Ave., Washington, DC 20418; call (202) 334-2872; fax (202) 334–3419; or e-mail infofell@nas.edu.

For complete eligibility information, see the web site at http://national-academies.org/fellowships. Web-based applications may be filled out and submitted on-line.

Achievement

Citizen is co-webmaster of site for Indians

LAWRENCE, Kan. — Lawrence tribal citizen Sherry Girty is co-webmaster of a site that is helping to unite Indians living in the greater Kansas City area.

The site, www.kcnativecommunity.org, which includes news, events, links, and sponsors went live on April 17. Girty, along with Mike Ring, a member of the Mdwakanton Nation, started the site and maintain it in their spare time.

In addition to providing information about dances, powwow, drum groups, and other events, the site also lists resources available Indians in the metropolitan area which includes parts of Kansas, Missouri, Iowa, and Nebraska.

Girty is employed with Haskell Indian Nations University Registrar's Office and is the single mother of a five year old boy.

Muscogee veteran pow wow guest of honor

MACY, Neb. — On Aug. 3 retired Army 1st Sgt. Austin "Amos" A. Harjo was the guest of honor and guest speaker at the 197th Annual Omaha Tribal Pow wow.

Harjo asked that the sacrifices and courage of American Indian combat veterans never be forgotten and offered prayer in the Maskoke language. He was given a traditional Omaha blanket in honor of his presence.

Harjo completed three combat tours — one in the

please see SOCIETY..., page 8

MORRIS BARNETT JR.

EUFAULA — Funeral services for Rev. Morris "Sonny Joe" Barnett Jr. were held Sept. 8 at Artussee Baptist Church with Rev. Birdcreek Phillips officiating and Revs. Norman Daniels, Ruben Kenny, and Rev. Bill Hobia officiating.

Wake services were held Sept. 7 at the church.

He died at his home on Sept. 6. He was born March 16, 1929 in McIntosh County to Roman and Mindy Deere Barnett.

Barnett had been a truck driver for almost 20 years and worked for Texaco-Ray Jones Service Station for 16 years. He had been a member of Artussee Baptist Church since 1968. Barnett received his minister license in 1963 and his certificate of ordination on June 6, 1971. He had been an evangelist for 40 years. He entered the U.S. Army in February 1951 at Tulsa and was honorably discharged in January 1953 at Fort Sill. Barnett attended Southeastern College at Durant. He married Mercedes Scott on March 23, 1954 at Fort Smith, Ark.

He was preceded in death by: his wife, Mercedes; one granddaughter; one grandson; one great-grandson; one brother, Roosevelt Barnett; three sisters, Stella Barnett Billie, Edna Barnett, and Jeanetta Barnett Mouse.

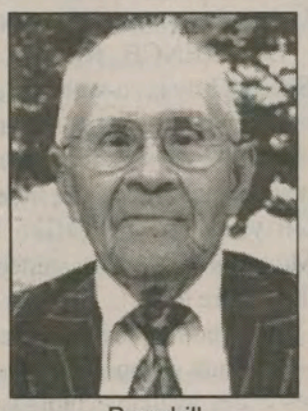
Survivors include: one daughter, Gwen Barnett of the home; five sons, Darrell "Sonny" Marcus of Oklahoma City; Fred, Eddie, and Bruce Barnett, all of Tulsa, and Roscoe Barnett of Checotah; great-grandson, Christian Lee Scott Bahe; grandchildren, Tammy Barnett and Scott Bahe of the home; and 17 grandchildren.

Pallbearers were: Marvin Lowe; Jeff Frazier; Jeremy Locust; Russell Powell; Howard Harjo; Bruce Douglas; and John Mullins. Honorary pallbearers were: all ministers present; grandson, Romon Gongales; nephews, Jack White, Mitchell Barnett, Kenneth Carr, and Willie Randall.

THOMAS BERRYHILL

WILSON — Funeral services for Rev. Thomas Jefferson Berryhill were held Oct. 15 at Honey Creek United Methodist Church with Revs. Newman Frank and Alex Lowe officiating.

Wake services were held Oct. 14 at Robert Simons Funeral Home Chapel.


Berryhill

He died Oct. 10 at Creek Nation Community Hospital in Okemah. He was born on March 24, 1913 to Joseph and Annie Kanard Berryhill on his father's allotment in Sharp (Wilson Community).

He belonged to the Wind Clan and Eufaula Deep Fork Tribal Town. He attended Wilson School and lived most of his life on his mother's Wilson Community allotment. While attending a revival at Concharty United Methodist Church he met Blanch Bland (Pakoska); they were married in Okemah by the Rev. Earl Dunson. Berryhill worked as an oil field laborer, at Eagle-Picher Foundry, and as a bus driver for Wilson School. He was also a member of the National Guard.

Berryhill was an avid sports fan and enjoyed participating in boxing, track, and football in his younger years. Later in life, he enjoyed watching his children and grandchildren play sports. Berryhill and his wife were actively involved in ministering to individuals in their homes, in nursing homes, and in hospitals. He was an ordained minister of the United Pentecostal Church, a lifelong member of Honey Creek United Methodist Church, and often attended Wilson Baptist Church. He enjoyed going to church and visiting other churches, being with his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, walking his mother's allotment, and attending the Tulsa State Fair.

He was preceded in death by: his wife, Blanch; one son, Thomas Paul Berryhill; his parents; grandmother, Eliza Watson Kanard Grayson; three brothers, Rufus, James, and Louis Berryhill; and one great-grandson, Pahvee Wilson Williams.

Survivors include: four children, Michael Berryhill of Henryetta; Rita Williams of the home; Perry Berryhill of Broken Arrow; Élliot Berryhill of Colorado Springs, Colo.; nine grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; and many other relatives and friends.

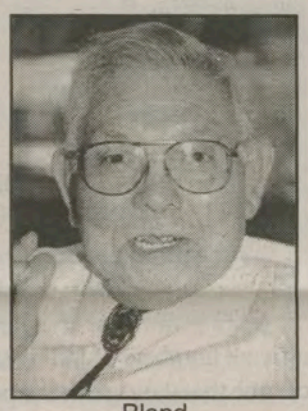
Casketbearers were: Mark Berryhill; Michael Berryhill; Aaron Berryhill; Shawn Williams; Alfred Berryhill; and Nelson Taylor. Honorary casketbearers were: Barton Williams; Alex Lowe; Virgil Coker; and Charlie Hicks.

Interment was at the Berryhill Family Cemetery in Wilson Community.

LEO BLAND (PAKOSKA)

TULSA — Funeral services for Leo Garland Bland (Pakoska) were held July 18 at Haikey United Methodist Church Chapel with Rev. Bernadine Dowdy officiating.

He died on July 15, at the Veterans Hospital in Muskogee, after a lengthy illness. He was born on May 19, 1920 in Broken Arrow to Jeanetta Haikey and Lewis Bland (Pakoska).


Bland

Bland belonged to Locvpokv Tribal Town. He was a scout in the Infantry 145th Division of the Army during World War II. He received the Purple Heart for wounds he suffered from German gunfire near the Rhine River. Among other awards that Bland was awarded were: Bronze Star Medal; Good Conduct Medal; European Campaign Medal (Bronze, Silver, and Arrowhead); WWII Victory Medal; Army of Occupation Medal; and Combat Infantryman Badge.

Survivors include: his wife, Virginia, of the home in Glenpool; and seven children, most of whom reside in California; many grandchildren and great-grandchildren; and many relatives and friends.

Interment was in Fort Gibson National Cemetery.

NETTIE COACHMAN

OKEMAH — Funeral services for Nettie Coachman were held Aug. 31 at Arbeka United Methodist Church with Revs. Joe Lowe Jr. and Kelly Tiger officiating.

Coachman died Aug. 26 in Tulsa. She was born on April 26, 1922 in Paden to Tulamarcy and Hillie Fixico McCullar.

She had lived in the Okemah area all of her life and attended school at Paden. She was a member of Arbeka United Methodist Church and enjoyed reading her Bible and sewing.

She was preceded in death by: her husband, Joe Coachman in June of 1970; one son, Tulamarcy; and one daughter, Mary Helen.

Survivors include: two sons, Don Simpson of Wilson and Frank Coachman of Cromwell; three daughters, Patricia Coachman of Earlsboro, Opal Harjo of Anadarko, and Cynthia Coachman of Prague; one sister, Ruby Harjo of Wewoka; nine grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren, and many other family members and friends.

Interment was at Arbeka Church Cemetery.

BENNY McDERMOTT

HENRYETTA — Funeral services for Benny McDermott were held Sept. 1 at Yardeka Baptist Church.

Wake services were held Aug. 31 at the church.

He died Aug. 29. He was born on April 7, 1936 to Jessie and Sallie Scott McDermott in Henryetta.

He was married to Reba Johnson. He had been a member of Yardeka Baptist Church for two years. He enjoyed playing bingo.

Preceding him in death were: three brothers, Jesse McDermott, Chanie Jones, and Ed Jones; and one sister, Mandy McNac.

Survivors include: two daughters, Thelma McDermott of Tulsa and Velma Osceola of Bristow; two brothers, LeRoy McDermott of Glenpool and Ralph Henneha of Okemah; two sisters, Nancy Jones of Henryetta and Betty Bear of Dustin; and six grandchildren.

Interment was at Yardeka Church Cemetery.

PATSY VERUCCHI

WELEETKA — Funeral services for Patsy Asbury Verucchi were held Sept. 6 at the First Baptist Church with Revs. Jack Vance and Howard Asbury officiating.

She died at her home in Okmulgee on Sept. 3. She was born May 3, 1939 in Claremore to Jimmie and Nellie Watts Asbury.

She was raised in Weleetka and attended the local school. On Dec. 4, 1956 she married Richard Pike. He was in the U.S. Air Force and the family was stationed at several military bases across the country. He preceded her in death in 1983. After his death she remained in the Okmulgee area and was employed by Wal-Mart, having just received her 15 year service award. On Jan. 6, 2000 she married Fred Verucchi. She was a member of the First Baptist Church in Weleetka. She enjoyed fishing, participating in other lake activities, and traveling.

Survivors include: her husband of the home; three sons, Mark Pike of Tucson, Ariz., Richard Glen Pike of Wetumka, and Christopher Pike of Henryetta; a brother, Howard Asbury of Okmulgee; three grandchildren, Breanna Pike, Amanda Crowell, and Nathan Pike; a great grandson, Eric Crowell; a niece; several nephews; and many other relatives and friends.

Pallbearers were: Mark Pike; Glen Pike; Chris Pike; James Asbury; Sharon Asbury; Donny Asbury; and Gary Asbury.

Interment was at Hillcrest Cemetery.

Gratitude

During the recent loss of our loved one, we would like to extend our appreciation to relatives and friends who expressed their respect and concern.

Thank you for your flowers, calls, and words of encouragement.

Thanks to Muscogee Nation Social Services and all of the clergy who attended the services. *Mvto.*

Kessler Bigpond family

Thank you to all the Arbeka Church members for their prayers, time, and serving food at the funeral.

I would like to express my appreciation to the Lighthorsemen who tried to our loved one.

God Bless each and every one for being there for us.

George Fraser Jr. Family

Film

continued from page 1

tive American student pursuing a career in the fields of film and video production.

The schedule for the Muscogee Film Festival is:

7 p.m., Fri., Nov. 16

"Christmas in the Clouds"

A trial of errors is set in a tribally-run ski resort. An ensemble cast highlights this heady mix of mistaken identity, bingo, and would be love. It is the winner of the Audience Award at the 2001 Austin Film Festival. Its director is Kate Montgomery. *Running time — 90 min.*

"Warriors"

Matinee

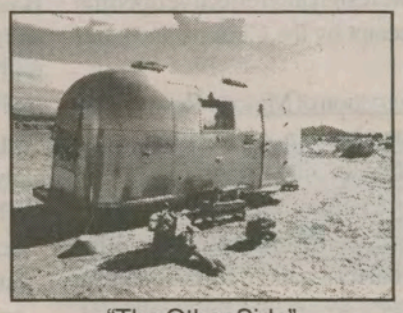
1 p.m., Sat., Nov 17

A presentation of the colors will be given by Mvskoke Nation Honor Guard prior to the first matinee screening.

"Warriors: Native American Vietnam Veterans"

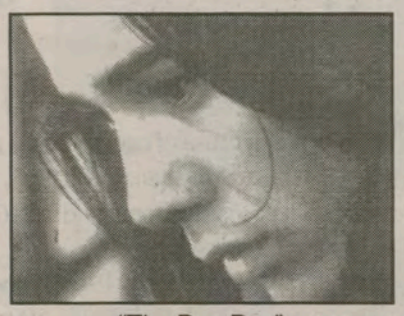
During the Vietnam war, almost 90 percent of the 86,000 Indians who enlisted volunteered, giving Native Americans the highest record of service per capita of any ethnic group. It is the winner of Best Feature Documentary at the American Indian Film Festival. Its director is Debbie Wallwork. *Running time — 56 min.*

"The Other Side"



"The Other Side"

A Native American woman, who is abandoned by her husband on the edge of a desert squatter's camp, sells undetonated ordnance back to the military for cash to survive. Director Karen Criswell, of Broken Arrow, will introduce her short film. *Running time — 25 min.*



"The Doe Boy"

"The Doe Boy"

Filmed on location in Tahlequah, Director Randy Redroad, brings this story about "Hunter," a young man of mixed heritage living in the heart of Cherokee Nation, who comes of age facing love, death, and the perils of hemophilia. *Running time — 83 min.*

Evening session

7 p.m., Sat., Nov. 17

"The Homecoming of Jimmy Whitecloud"

Director Paul Winters.

While working the nightclubs of New York, fast-rising comic "Jimmy Whitecloud" becomes the unwitting recipient of Ray "The Tuna" Grazziano. Chased from the streets of New York to his Arizona reservation, Jimmy learns powerful lessons about life in his battle to avoid death at the hands of New York's most powerful mobsters. *Running time — 83 min.*

Reception

A reception in honor of all tribal veterans will be held following the last screening.

Admission is $5 for each session. Children ages 10 and under will be admitted at no cost, although the films are aimed at mature audiences.

For more information, contact Festival Coordinator Gerald Wofford at: (918) 756-8700, ext. 220; or e-mail comm1@ocevnet.org.

Legal notices

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tion 602, Code of Laws of the Muscogee Nation.

2. In the event that you the natural father fail to appear at this hearing, your absence will be taken as a denial of your parental rights and, in that event, and on the date thereof, your paternal rights, privileges and duties concerning said minor child will be permanently terminated. Upon termination of your parental rights the adoption of the child will take place without further notice to you and without requiring your consent to the requested adoption.

3. You may seek the advice of an attorney on any matter connected with this suit. Such attorney should be contacted immediately. If you can not afford an attorney, you may request the court to appoint an attorney to represent you without cost to you.

/s/ Patrick Moore, Judge of the District Court

George Almerigi, OBA #010188
Attorney for Petitioners
2009 Parkview Dr.
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 758-0762

Published in *The Muscogee Nation News*, Volume 30, Issue 11, November 2001

Case No. AD 2001-08
In the matter of J.B.F. a/k/a Baby Girl F., a minor child.

Order for and notice of hearing to determine whether or not father's consent is necessary for adoption

State of Oklahoma to: Scott (last name unknown)

On this 1st of November 2001 the Petitioner having filed a Petition to Adopt and an Application to Determine Whether or Not the Father's Consent is necessary for adoption of the above named father of J.B.F. a/k/a Baby Girl F. born June 9, 2001, alleging, among other things, that the father has failed to properly support and provide, maintain contact or otherwise behave in a manner sufficient to have a right to consent to adoption, the Court determines to set for hearing whether or not the consent of the father is necessary for adoption.

It is therefore ordered, adjudged and decreed by the court and notice is given that on the 17th day of December 2001 in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation in Okmulgee, Oklahoma, at 1:30 p.m. the Court will determine whether or not the consent of the above named father is necessary for adoption and in the event that he does not appear at such date, time and place then the Court may determine that the failure to appear constitutes a denial of interest in the child which denial may result, without further notice of this proceeding or any subsequent proceeding, in determining that consent to adoption is not necessary, the termination of his parental rights and the transfer of the child's care, custody or guardianship or in the child's adoption. If he appears the Court will establish a scheduling order so that appropriate preparations for trial on the merits may be made.

/s/ Patrick Moore, Judge of the District Court

Michael E. Yeksavich, O.B.A. #9948
Attorney for Petitioner
1107 S. Peoria
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74120
918-592-6050

Published in *The Muscogee Nation News*, Volume 30, Issue 11, November 2001

Case No. JV-2001-15
In the matter of C.N., minor Creek child

Notice of hearing

To: Caroline D. Noriega, mother of C.N.
Ricardo Avila Remedios, father of C.N.

You are hereby given notice of a hearing on the above-styled and numbered case for the purpose of Adjudication in the District Courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Tribal Complex at Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the 17th day of December, 2001 at 1:30 p.m.

You are hereby informed that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the children remain wards of the Court and custody be continued in the Children and Family Services Administration for continued foster placement or possible pre-adoptive placement.

You are further informed that you have the right to be represented by legal counsel at this hearing.

I have hereunto set my hand this 31st day of October, 2001.

/s/ Patrick Moore, Judge of the District Court
Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Children & Family Service Administration
P.O. Box 580
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-2112

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizenship Board notice

The Nation's Citizenship Code has recently been amended and codified. It is very important that each citizen be familiar with the Citizenship Code. Some of the most important Citizenship Code requirements are listed below.

The Nation maintains a policy against dual enrollment. This issue is addressed at Section 401 of the Citizenship Code and reads as follows:

Section 401. Eligibility

As provided in the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation at Article II, Section 2, "Persons eligible for citizenship in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation shall consist of Muscogee (Creek) Indians by blood whose names appear on the final rolls as provided by the Act of April 26, 1906, (34 Stat. 137), and persons who are lineal descendants of those Muscogee (Creek) Indians by blood whose names appear on the final rolls as provided by the Act of April 26, 1906 (34 Stat. 137); (except that an enrolled member of another Indian tribe, nation, band or pueblo shall not be eligible for citizenship in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.)"

Resignation of enrollment from the Nation is addressed at Section 413 of the Code and now reads as follows:

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Legal notices

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Section 413. Resignation of Enrollment

A. Resignation. Resignations of enrollment shall become effective thirty (30) days after the enrollment card is returned, or twenty (20) days after required forms are executed, whichever is later. Any enrolled citizen of the Muscogee Nation may resign their enrollment in the Muscogee Nation by:

1. Presenting their enrollment card to the Citizenship Board.

2. Executing forms prescribed by the Citizenship Board which indicate that the resignation is voluntary.

B. Resignation irrevocable. The resignation of a member over the age of eighteen shall be an absolute and irrevocable resignation effective upon the date of receipt by the Citizenship Board Office.

C. Resignation of Minors. Resignation of the membership of a child under eighteen may be made only by a parent possessing legal custody of the child or by the legal guardian of the child and shall be a conditional resignation, conditioned on the member's acceptance for enrollment in another tribe, in which case the resignation shall be effective on the date of the enrollment in the other tribe.

It is very important to the Citizenship Board that all citizens provide the Board with their current address as well as their current name. Section 412 and Section 502 of the Code address this issue and read as follows:

Section 412. Citizens advised of Responsibility in Current Information

The Citizenship Board shall advise each certified Citizen in writing, in Muscogee and in English, of their responsibility to provide new information to the Citizenship Board any time they move or change their name.

Section 502. Change of Address

Any change in address must be reported to the Citizenship Board, and the citizen's address in their enrollment records shall be updated.

The Citizenship Board encourages all citizens to read the Citizenship Code. The full text of the Citizenship Code appears in NCA 01-135 (and will appear in the MCN Code of Laws, Title 7), and may be obtained from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council by calling 1 (800) 482-1979, ext. 346.

October District Court filings

Civil Actions:

- In the matter of: Tiara Cheek, majority rights
- WE Finance, Inc. vs. Gale Smith, small claims
- Creditors Recovery Corp. vs. Esther Fixica, foreign judgement

Protective Orders:

- Karen Powell vs. Paul T. Bass, foreign ex-parte
- Jeff Powell vs. Kenneth McGirt, ex-parte
- Katie Barnett vs. Walter Lewis Jr., ex-parte

Traffic:

- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Anthony J. Benson

Count 1: improper tag display

Criminal-Misdemeanor:

- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Lambert Tisho

Count 1: violation of protective order

Count 2: public intoxication

Criminal-Felony

- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Steven D. Barnett

2 1 Counts: embezzlement, theft, and false accounts

Notices

continued from page 4

ond leading cause of cancer deaths among men, following deaths due to lung cancer. In 1998, 374 men died of prostate cancer in Oklahoma and 1,810 were diagnosed with prostate cancer.

Nationally, more than 198,000 men will learn they have the disease in 2001, and over 31,500 men will lose their lives from it. The major risk factors for prostate cancer are age, family history, and race. Older men are at greatest risk of getting prostate cancer. Of the cases reported in Oklahoma, 99 percent were men over 45 years of age. Men with either a brother or father having had prostate cancer are at twice the risk for getting prostate cancer. Men with more than two first-degree family members who have had prostate cancer are at five times the risk for getting prostate cancer.

The two tests to detect prostate cancer are called prostate serum antigen (PSA) and digital rectal examination (DRE), which must be used in combination to make the best screen for abnormal conditions. The PSA is a blood test used to measure the protein from prostate in the blood. In the DRE test, a physician inserts a gloved finger in the rectum to examine the prostate gland for sizes larger than a walnut.

Oklahoma health care facilities are cooperating in a current research study on ways to prevent prostate cancer. The research study is called S.E.L.E.C.T. — Selenium and Vitamin E Cancer Prevention Trial. Participants should:

- be male and 55 years of age and older;
- be African-American males and 50 years of age and older;
- never had prostate cancer;
- not had other types of cancer in five years or more; and
- be in good health

For more information about the study, call the Cancer Information Services of the National Cancer Institute at 1 (800) 422-6237 or call Integris Oncology Services at (405) 949-3870.

Society

continued from page 5

Korea War and two in the Vietnam War. He is under consideration for the Medal of Honor; his application is currently being reviewed by U.S. Army Personnel Command.

He is retired from the 101st Airborne Division, Fort Campbell, Kent. Harjo, of Muskogee, is the president of the Mvskoke Red Stick (Combat Veterans) Society.

Harjo

Jefferson completes basic training

FORT LEONARD, Mo. — Pvt. Stephanie M. Jefferson, U.S. Army, completed basic training on Sept. 27.

She is currently stationed at Fort Sam Houston, San Antonio, Texas, where she began advanced individual training to become an emergency medical technician.

Jefferson

Jefferson is the daughter of Mike Jefferson of Wetumka and Pauline Lewis of Shawnee. She has one brother, Michael Paul, and two sisters, Kiley and Corrie.

She is the granddaughter of Lona and the late Joseph Scott and the late Mandy Hill and Eldon Lewis.

Community News

Sapulpa community holding Thanksgiving dinner

SAPULPA — Sapulpa Creek Indian Community is holding its annual Thanksgiving dinner at 6 p.m., Nov. 17.

The community center is located at 1020 N. Brown St.

Hanna Indian community elects officers

HANNA — On Oct. 9 Hanna Indian Community elected new officers.

Officers are: Naomi Harjo, president; Curtis Williamson, vice president; Wanda Harjo, secretary; Belinda Watashe, treasurer; Gary Mitchell, sergeant at arms; and Benita Bear, youth activity director.

City Muscogee association elects officers

OKLAHOMA CITY — Oklahoma City Muscogee (Creek) Association recently held elections for governing body officers.

Officers are: Ted Isham, president; Blue Clark, vice president; Marcella Owens, secretary; Sam Barnett, treasurer; and George Bunny, member-at-large.

"The Oklahoma City community of Mvskokvlke wishes to invite all local Creeks to come and participate in the events of the association. It is with the community's help and support that we will be a strong organization here in the Oklahoma City area," said Isham. Isham said he appreciates support offered to recent Creek language classes and a taco sale.

The community center is located at 543 S.E. 29th St. For more information regarding community activities, call Bunny at (405) 947-7752.

Tulsa holding Christmas bazaar, elects officers

TULSA — Tulsa Creek Indian Community is holding a Christmas bazaar from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., Dec. 1

Table setup is $15. Donations for a white elephant sale are being sought. Musical entertainment and clothing designers, to exhibit their creations in a fashion show, are being sought also.

For more information, call the community center at (918) 298-2464; Paula Willits at (918) 445-1155; Cherrah Ridge-Quiett at (918) 645-0114; or Ramona Faulkner at (918) 665-1492.

On Sept. 24 TCIC held its annual election of officers. Officers for 2001-02 are: Eleanor June Mustari, chair; Owen Sapulpa, vice chair; Cherrah Ridge-Quiett, secretary; Paula Perkins Willits, treasurer; and Richard Anderson, sergeant at arms.

The Muscogee Nation News

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Twelth session of Council to take oath of office

OKMULGEE — The 12th session of the Muscogee National Council will take the oath of office on Jan. 5 in accordance with the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Muscogee Nation Supreme Court Justice Amos McNac will swear in the 26 members of the National Council beginning at 10 a.m. The Council will decide upon the positions of Speaker, second speaker, and sergeant at arms immediately after they take the oath of office.

The location for the ceremony is tentatively scheduled to be held in the Independent Agencies (mound) Building Auditorium located on the tribal capitol complex. The alternate site for the ceremony is Creek Nation Okmulgee Bingo, located at the corner of Wood Drive (U.S. Highway 75) and Eufaula Street.

Council to have largest number of female reps in tribal history

OKMULGEE — Ten recently-elected National Council representatives lends the 12th session of the National Council the

see **WOMEN...**, page 3

Cvmpcakuce, cvmpcakuce...

photo by Stephanie Barnett

The Creek Council House Museum's class of Maskoke Christmas song singers practice singing traditional English Christmas songs — translated into the Maskoke language — outside of the Council House Museum for the City of Okmulgee's Christmas parade. Jeanetta Sumka; Elise Berryhill; Doris Sumka; Fannie Barnett; Dianna Weisz; Georgia Layton; Rita Williams; Alfred Berryhill; back (view obstructed on most individuals) — George Alexander; Smiley Barnett; Pat Factor; Rachel Layton; Ted Isham; Christine Berryhill; Sampson Lewis; and Ray Scott.

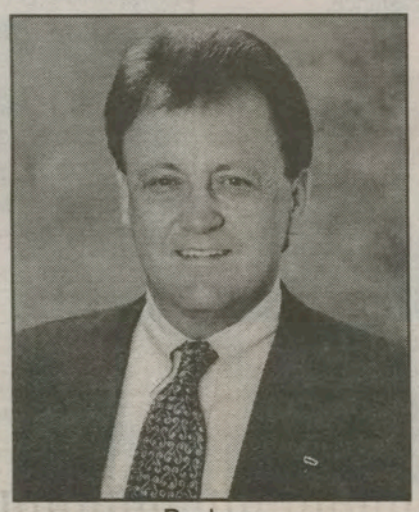
Muscogee People

Denver tribal citizen selected out of 1,500 for information technology award

In traditional Muscogee society, a speaker is an invaluable part of the tribal town process. Faced with the responsibility to properly distribute information to the people, a speaker is chosen wisely and can be used effectively — not only in the tribal towns, but in the mainstream world as well.

In the world of satellites, telecommunications, and numbers, a Muscogee (Creek) citizen is leading the way.

Bruce Benham, a chief technology officer at global franchisor, RE/MAX International, Inc., has received "The CIO (chief information officer) of the Year Award" from the Center for Information Technology, a division of the University of Colorado at Denver, School of Business.



Benham

Benham's recognition comes because of impressive achievements and hard work. In 1994, Benham was in charge of establishing the RE/MAX Satellite Television Network, which was the first real estate industry satellite television system in the world. Benham remains the senior officer in charge of its operation. Benham was also the officer in charge of the first real estate industry web site —

please see **BENHAM...**, page 9

Groundbreaking for Muscogee (Creek) Nation BIA office building being held in Muskogee

MUSKOGEE — Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs Neal McCaleb will be on hand to help break ground for the six million dollar Muscogee (Creek) Nation Bureau of Indian Affairs Office Building at 10 a.m., Dec. 14.

The groundbreaking ceremony will be held at the construction site located at U.S. Highway 69 and Peak Boulevard.

Construction of the office building, to be completed by September 2002, will mark the first tribally-built and owned building to be leased to a regional area office of the BIA.

Construction on the two story, 44,000 square foot building began on Dec 1 by building contractor SGS (Scott and Guernsey Solutions), located in Oklahoma City.

Letters to the editor

Okmulgee representative-elect thanks voters

Editor:

I would like to publicly thank the voters of Okmulgee District for electing me to be a representative of the National Council. I consider it a privilege and an honor to serve the citizens of Okmulgee District and be a part of the governing body of the Muscogee Nation.

I plan to work diligently for the best interests of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. I have some ideas, but I would like to know what the concerns of our citizens are in order to be more effective. I invite all citizens to write me about their concerns and problems at: P.O. Box 44, Okmulgee, OK 74447, fax — (918) 756-4696; or e-mail me at repalmerigi@cs.com.

Again, I thank all who voted in the runoff election regardless of whether their vote was cast for me.

George Almerigi, Okmulgee

Heritage days cochair appreciates support

Editor:

Many thanks to those who turned out and offered support for Euchee Heritage Days' Nov. 2 evening events and also for the Nov. 3 arts and crafts sale and stompdance.

On behalf of the coordinators, I want to thank Glenpool Creek Indian Community for the use of their activity building, many friends and relatives for their help in getting ready, the arts and crafts vendors, and the great support for the stompdance. I also want to thank Duck Creek Indian Community for the use of their tables and chairs.

Thanks again to everyone for the great turnout at Euchee Heritage Days.

Felix Brown Jr.,

Editor's note: Felix Brown Jr. is the cochair for Euchee Heritage Days.

Representative-elect appreciates Tulsa voters

Editor:

I wish to thank all precinct and absentee voters who participated in the Sept. 22 primary election. I am both grateful and humbled that they have elected me to serve as their Tulsa District Representative to the tribal National Council.

At the highest degree, I will live up to your faith and trust in electing me. I am extremely optimistic that the other four Tulsa representatives and myself can have an immediate impact in passing legislation that benefits not only the Tulsa District, but the entire Muscogee Nation as a whole.

I want my constituents to feel free to call, write, or fax me anytime with questions and comments. The makeup of our new National Council is very promising. I see positive signs for excellent cooperation between the administrative, judicial, and legislative branches. In turn, this will result in providing better services and programs for our tribal citizens in all areas.

First and foremost, let us never forget that we, as elected officials, are here to serve! God bless and *mvto*.

Ronald Allen Cleghorn, Tulsa

Citizen wants to locate relatives for reunion

Editor:

I am seeking relatives of Turner Scott, Lumbert Scott, Robert Scott, Rufus Scott, Sally Scott Harry, Bessie Scott Wiley, and Minnie Scott Clouds Biggs for a family reunion.

Individuals with information may contact me at: (918)756-3334, ext. 287; or e-mail, etta.conner@mail.ihs.gov.

Etta Conner, Glenpool

Student thanks tribe for opportunity

Editor:

I would like to thank the Muscogee Nation for providing me with the opportunity to attend the National Youth Leadership Conference held in Washington D.C. in October.

It was a great honor to attend this conference and represent not only Pauls Valley High School, but also the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. I want to especially thank National Council Rep. Keeper Johnson for all of his assistance.

Robbie Crosier, Pauls Valley

Miss Mvskoke (Creek) Nation reports on busy year

Hesce — my name is Dawn Adrienne Thompson; I was crowned Miss Mvskoke (Creek) Nation on June 14. I belong to the Deer Clan and Locvpokv Tribal Town and am Maskoke and Euchee. My ceremonial ground is Duck Creek. I am 21 years of age and reside in Mounds with my parents — Carlin and Juanita "Pete" Thompson.

Currently I work at the Muscogee Nation Office of Child Care and in the evenings I attend classes through Bacone College at its extension class on the tribal complex.

So far, I have met a lot of new and exciting people. My world has really opened up since being selected as Miss Mvskoke (Creek) Nation. First, I want to say how privileged and honored I am to be able to represent such a proud and courageous people. During my reign, I'm making a point to visit ceremonial grounds and churches. I have also visited the children at some of the tribe's child development centers. These children are so important because they are our future *mekkos*, principal chiefs, court judges, National Council representatives, and community leaders. It amazed me to see that some of the child development center children were learning to speak the Maskoke language quite well. It makes me proud to see how intelligent the people of our Nation are and to see that we have teachers who are willing to take time and teach what they know to our young ones.

submitted photo

Miss Mvskoke (Creek) Nation Dawn Thompson, center, pictured with Shelly Wall, left, and another model (identity unknown), right, at a fashion show that held during the National Indian and Native American WIC Conference "Fanning the Flames of Healthy Traditions."

So far I have attended different functions such as: Indian fashion shows; powwows; parades; rodeos; and other tribal festivals as well as the Creek Festival held in Georgia. It has really been an exciting seven months for me and I couldn't make it without the support of so many people — whether it is directing me to activities and events that I should go, helping me financially, or helping me with encouraging words and prayers. I would like to offer my gratitude to my ceremonial ground members at Duck Creek for their never failing support. I also want to thank my dedicated parents who have chaperoned me tirelessly.

Merry Christmas — I hope the New Year brings health and prosperity to you and your loved ones.

Seasons Greetings
from the
Muscogee (Creek) Nation

The Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to ***The Muscogee Nation News***, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of every month.** ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Standard Class A from Okmulgee, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

Stephanie Barnett, managing editor
Gerald Wofford, photography
Denise Jacobs, page layout
Jennifer Taryole, circulation

Muscogee National Council overview

OKMULGEE — The following consists of actions of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council conducted at its Sept. 29 regular session and Oct. 23 special session.

Sept. 29 regular session

Absent was **Sheridan Pickering**, Creek District; **Jacob Mosquito**, Creek District; **Wilbur Gouge**, McIntosh District; **Tom Pickering**, McIntosh District; **Anderson Hale**, Okmulgee District; and **Nathan Buck**, Tukvpvtce District.

Second Speaker Robert Hufft conducted the meeting and voted on the veto only.

The following veto message was acted upon:

• approved (16-4-0) to let veto stand on NCA 01-151, authorizing the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System to enter into a strategic alliance with the American Indian and Alaska native division of Quorum Health Resources, LLC;

voting yes were (representatives followed by district): **Helen Chupco**, Muskogee; **Harley Little**, Muskogee; **Thomas McIntosh**, McIntosh; **Bruce Smith**, Okfuskee; **Bill Fife**, Okfuskee; **David Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Keeper Johnson**, Okmulgee; **David Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Dwayne Lowe**, Tukvpvtce; **James McGirt**, Tukvpvtce; **Larry Bible**, Tulsa; **Mary Sue Peak**, Tulsa; **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa; **Jesse Kelley**, Tulsa; **Richard Berryhill**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; and **Barbara Gillespie**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes;

voting no were: **Duke Harjo**, Creek; **Famous Marshall**, Okfuskee; **Sandra Turner Peters**, Okmulgee; and **Earl King**, Tulsa;

In the order of business the Council:

• approved unanimously (20-0-0) NCR 01-04, confirming the nomination of **James B. King** to serve on the tribal trade and commerce authority board of trustees;

T. Pickering arrived prior to the vote on NCR 01-04, making attendance at 21 present with five being absent;

• approved unanimously (21-0-0) TR 01-40, in support of a special diabetes initiative within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

Mosquito arrived prior to the vote on TR 01-40, making attendance at 22 present with four being absent;

• approved unanimously (21-0-0) TR 01-41, in support of a Native American Research Center for Health project — school based intervention programs to reduce the risk of type 2 diabetes;

• approved unanimously (21-0-0) TR 01-42, authorizing the principal chief to execute an agreement for engineering services, sanitary sewer, storm sewer, and water system mapping between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and FHC, Inc.;

• approved unanimously (21-0-0) TR 01-43, approving the selection of a contractor and authorizing the housing authority to execute a contract for rehabilitation repair work;

• approved unanimously (22-0-0) TR 01-44, authorizing the principal chief to submit a proposal to the extension Indian reservation program in order to fund the Muscogee Nation's 4-H extension educator;

S. Pickering arrived prior to the vote on TR 01-44, making attendance at 23 present with three being absent;

• approved unanimously (22-0-0) TR 01-48, approving the selection of contractors and authorizing the housing authority to execute contracts for rehabilitation repair work of three privately owned and four mutual help homes and eight Okmulgee low rent apartments;

• approved (21-1-0) NCA 01-57, repealing NCA 00-171 and increasing the annual funding for the higher education program of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

voting no was **Fife**;

• tabled (17-4-0) NCA 01-148, authorizing a special appropriation to the Okmulgee County YMCA for expansion and improvements;

voting no were: **S. Pickering**; **T. Pickering**; **Nichols**; and **Lowe**;

no vote was recorded for **Bible**;

• approved (19-3-0) NCA 01-171, appropriating funds for payment of property taxes on non-trust real property held by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

voting no were: **Marshall**; **Fife**; and **Peters**;

• approved unanimously (22-0-0) NCA 01-173, appropriating funds to the Salem-Ryal senior nutrition center;

• approved unanimously (22-0-0) NCA 01-175, authorizing a special appropriation to financially assist a Creek elder;

• approved unanimously (22-0-0) NCA 01-176, amending NCA 01-132, appropriating and authorizing the expenditure of funds for Duck Creek Indian Community for an economic development gaming and renovation project;

• failed to approve (10-12-0) as amended NCA 01-177, authorizing a special appropriation to the Schulter Public School;

voting no were: **S. Pickering**; **Chupco**; **McIntosh**; **Marshall**; **Smith**; **Fife**; **Lowe**; **McGirt**; **Bible**; **King**; **Berryhill**; and **Gillespie**;

• approved unanimously (22-0-0) NCA 01-179, appropriating funds for the fiscal year 2001 Indian Reservation Roads Program Grant;

• approved (21-1-0) NCA 01-181, authorizing a special appropriation to the division of health administration, elderly nutrition program, FY 2002 budget for the continuation of elderly meal delivery services to Indian elders in the Eufaula area;

voting no was **Fife**;

• approved unanimously (22-0-0) NCA 01-182, appropriating funds for the FY 2001 Indian Reservation Roads Program Grant;

• approved unanimously (22-0-0) NCA 01-184, amending NCA 97-07, as amended by NCA 00-28 and NCA 01-160;

• approved unanimously (22-0-0) NCA 01-186, providing for the appropriation of funds for the purpose of environmental cleanup of Kellyville Indian Community Center;

• approved unanimously (22-0-0) NCA 01-188, authorizing the disbursement of the community development block grant act funds for fiscal year 2001;

• approved unanimously (22-0-0) NCA 01-190, amending NCA 01-146 — a law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing a special appropriation to purchase air conditioning units for the elders of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation; and

• approved unanimously (22-0-0) NCR 01-06, recognizing Ruthie Burgess — a tribal secretary for the National Council that retired in October.

October 23 special session

Absent were: **Jacob Mosquito**, Creek District; **Harley Little**, Muskogee District; **Famous Marshall**, Okfuskee District; **Nathan Buck**, Tukvpvtce District; and **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa District.

Speaker **Wilbur Gouge**, McIntosh District, relinquished the chair to Sergeant at Arms **Richard Berryhill**, Wagoner District — who did not vote.

In the order of business the Council:

• approved unanimously (20-0-0) NCA 01-211, amending NCA 01-190 (a law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing a special appropriation to purchase air conditioning units for the elders of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation);

voting yes were (representatives followed by district): **Sheridan Pickering**, Creek; **Duke Harjo**, Creek; **Helen Chupco**, Muskogee; **Tom Pickering**, McIntosh; **Wilbur Gouge**, McIntosh; **Thomas McIntosh**, McIntosh; **Bruce Smith**, Okfuskee; **Bill Fife**, Okfuskee; **Dave Lewis**; Okmulgee; **Keeper Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Anderson Hale**, Okmulgee; **Sandra Turner Peters**, Okmulgee; **David Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Dwayne Lowe**, Tukvpvtce; **James McGirt**, Tukvpvtce; **Larry Bible**, Tulsa; **Mary Sue Peak**, Tulsa; **Earl King**, Tulsa; **Jesse Kelley**, Tulsa; and **Barbara Gillespie**, Wagoner.

Women

continued from page 1

distinction of having the largest number of female representatives since the passage of the Five Civilized Tribes Act of 1970.

In 1973, the Council had five female members: Jorene Coker; Margaret Freeman; Hattie Spears; Bessie Sorethumb; and Susanna Willits. The fourth and seventh sessions of the Council both had six representatives that were women. Until the recent general election of the 2002-2003 Council, the eighth session — which consisted of 36 representatives — boasted the largest female representation with eight members: Helen Chupco; Irene Cleghorn; Barbara Gillespie; Mae Jackson; Peggy Lyda; Frances Pease; Wynema "Judy" Roberts; and Phyllis Warrington.

Six of the 10 representatives of the 12th session have previously served terms on the Council: Chupco, Muskogee District; Gillespie, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes District; Jackson, Okfuskee District; Sandra Turner Peters, Okmulgee District; Warrington, Creek District; and Nancy West Watson, Okfuskee District.

Chupco served as a Tukvpvtce Tribal Town representative to the Council during the administration of Principal Chief W.E. "Dode" McIntosh from 1961 to 71. During that time representatives were appointed by McIntosh, with 18 out of 54 being women, Chupco said. She did not serve on the Council again until after the adoption of the 1979 tribal Constitution — which changed tribal town representation to that of a representative democracy based on district population.

Chupco

After the Five Tribes Act — which gave the tribe the right to elect its political leaders — there were years that Chupco, who is endeavoring upon her 12th consecutive term, served on the Council with little camaraderie from the feminine gender. The 12th session's ratio of women-to-men is even greater than that of the McIntosh years. "I think it's a good thing," she said in regard to the number of women to be sworn into office on Jan. 6, "it's a good thing to let more women have a voice in it."

Newcomers are: Judy Aaron, Creek District; Lola Fields, Tukvpvtce District; Sandra Golden, Okfuskee District; and Cherrah De'Ann Ridge-Quiett, Tulsa District.

Aaron, who will resign from her position as the tribe's health systems administrator for Sapulpa Indian Health Center in order to take office, feels tribal matriarchy has schooled and fortified its women with the ability to sensitively respond to the needs of citizens.

"In my family, as I am sure it is in most Creek homes, my mother or grandmother was the core which kept the family

please see **WOMEN**..., page 9

Tribal programs and offices close for holidays

OKMULGEE — Programs and offices of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, as well as the Muscogee Nation Division of Health Administration, will be closed on several dates in December and January.

Those dates are: Dec. 24; 25; 31; and Jan. 1.

All tribal and DHA offices and programs, including health centers, elderly nutrition centers, child development centers and Head Start Centers will be closed also.

Social services announces field site dates

OKMULGEE — Muscogee Nation Social Services Department is accepting applications for general assistance at field sites in Eufaula, Holdenville, Okemah, and Sapulpa.

The field sites and dates are:

• Okemah Indian Community Center, 1100 S. Woody Guthrie St. — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., Jan. 2 and 16.

• Eufaula Indian Community Center, 800 Forest Ave. — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., Jan. 3 and 17.

• Sapulpa Indian Health Center, 1125 E. Cleveland — applications will be accepted from 1 to 3 p.m., Jan. 3 and 17; and

• Holdenville Indian Community Center, 224 E. Poplar — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., Jan. 15.

Energy assistance may not be applied for at these regularly scheduled site visits.

Euchee enrollment project underway

SAPULPA — The Euchee Tribe is in the process of conducting membership enrollment with its Euchee Enrollment Project.

It is necessary that membership enrollment be documented by filling out an application with sound genealogical information.

The Euchee tribe, although not federally recognized, have maintained their culture and traditions as Indian people. From the time of removal to Oklahoma in the 1890s from the areas of present-day Tennessee, Georgia, Alabama, and Florida the Euchee have managed to maintain their identity, according to news release issued by the project..

While many Euchee people are enrolled with other tribes, the Euchee community continues to maintain its cultural and social institutions, including ceremonial beliefs, traditions, and language.

The current number of Euchee Indians is estimated to be at 1000, depending on the degree of blood used, according to the project release.

Tribal members with Euchee ancestry have generally been included on various tribal rolls, especially on the Muscogee Nation rolls — a decision forced upon them by federal government policy of the time. The Euchee people have always considered themselves to be a separate tribe and have always conducted their

please see **EUCHEE**..., page 9

Energy assistance applications to be accepted

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee Nation Social Services Department will begin accepting applications for its tribal energy assistance and Low Income Home Energy Assistance programs in December and January.

Past participants will be notified by mail of the appointment schedule. Social services will begin taking walk-in appointments on Jan. 7 for first-time applicants.

The following information is required to complete the application process:

• Certificate Degree of Indian Blood card (CDIB) or tribal citizenship card;

• Social Security card;

• income verification for each household member; and

• a heating bill in the applicant or spouse's name.

Additional information will be required for students ages 18 years or older and individuals caring for minor children other than their own.

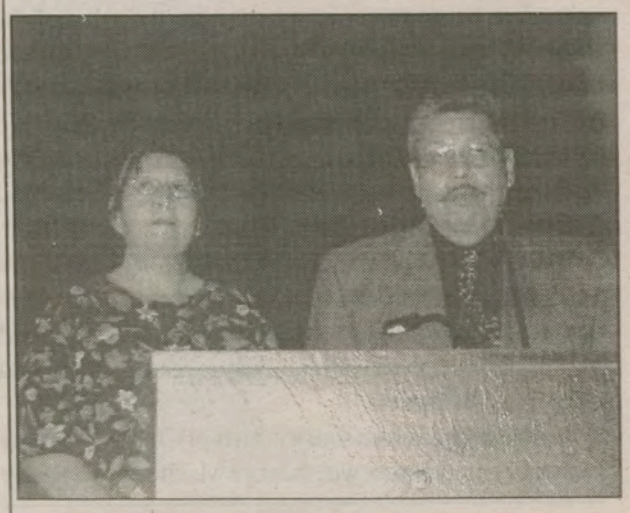
For more information, contact the social services department at (918) 756-8700 or 1 (800) 482-1979, ext. 279.

please see **NOTICES**..., page 9

Fourth Annual Muscogee Film Festival

Among those attending the festival's Native American Visual Arts Education Day at Gilcrease Museum were, pictured left to right, first row: students, Alicia Denny, Matthew Lehman, and Jennifer Shrum; back row — George Tabor, Edison High School instructor; Charles Chibitty, Comanche Codetalker; Lillian Williams, Tulsa Indian Education program; and students, Shawn Hightower, John Wilson, and Joey Hirseh.

Below: Janie and Jamies Bates of Sand Springs attended the matinee showing of 'The Doe Boy' at the Muscogee Film Festival. Both girls had extra parts in the movie.



Left: Rena and Robert Grant of Okemah were in attendance to represent their daughter, Melody Grant, who is the recipient of the festival's Native American Film Scholarship. M. Grant is a Muscogee tribal citizen studying film at Loyola-Marymount College in Los Angeles, Calif.

Right: Film director Karen Criswell and Muscogee Film Festival Coordinator Gerald Wofford at the festival reception after the screening of her film "The Other Side."

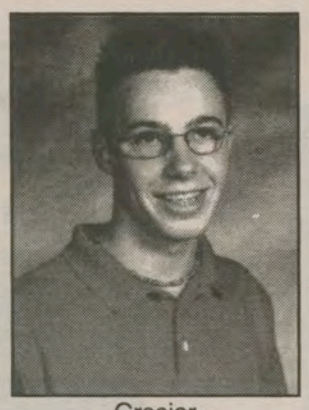
Comanche Codetalker Charles Chibitty poses with Gilcrease Museum Program Director Deborah Burke during the Muscogee Film Festival.

Boy attends national leadership conference

WASHINGTON — Pauls Valley High School junior Robbie Crosier was nominated to attend the National Youth Leadership Conference held during October.

The theme of the conference was "The Leaders of Tomorrow Meeting the Leaders of Today."

"The National Young Leaders Conference provides an opportunity for students to distinguish themselves as tomorrow's leaders," said Michael Lasday, executive director of the Congressional Youth Leadership Council — the organization that sponsors the NYLC. "Scholars not only gain knowledge and experience in the nation's capital, they leave with a sense of accomplishment and an increased ability to face the challenges of the future" he said. To complement the schedule of special meetings and briefings, each student participated in a number of leadership skill-building activities.


Crosier

Crosier is the son of Robin and Bob Phillips of Pauls Valley and the late Ronnie Crosier. He is the grandson of James and Colleen Jones of Dustin and Raymond and Novella Crosier of Okmulgee.

Youth named U.S. National Award winner

ANDERSON — The United States achievement Academy announced that Nicholas D. Watkins has been named a United States National Award winner in agriculture, football, honor roll, leadership and service, and mathematics.

This award recognizes fewer than 10 percent of all high school students. Watkins has also been selected for Who's Who Among American High School students.

Watkins, a Crescent High School student, was nominated for this national award by Mr. Daniels, a teacher at the school. He will appear in the United States Achievement Academy official yearbook, which is published nationally.

He is the son of Dale and Linda Watkins of Anderson. His grandparents are Shawney and Annie Hardridge of Kellyville and Grady Watkins and Florine Threlkeld, both of Anderson.

Accomplishments

Man receives exemplary service award

SAN ANTONIO — Ben D. Roth recently received the Department of the Air Force Award for Exemplary Civilian Service.

He received the award for his performance as design project manager and chief, design and project management branch, facilities division, directorate of force management and personnel, Headquarters Air Force Service Agency from Jan. 26, 1993 to Nov. 2, 2001.

"Throughout this period, Roth's exceptional performance, outstanding professional skills, noteworthy dedication to the mission, and exemplary leadership qualities, contributed immeasurably to the success of the Air Force Services Agency and has had a positive impact on the lives of Air Force members and their families throughout the world," wrote Col. Joseph W. Mazzola.

Roth's efforts resulted in the design and construction of over 345 projects, approaching 700 million dollars, for use by Air Force personnel.

"Mr. Roth's outstanding leadership, dedication to duty, exceptional customer focus, and singularly distinguished accomplishments...reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Air Force."

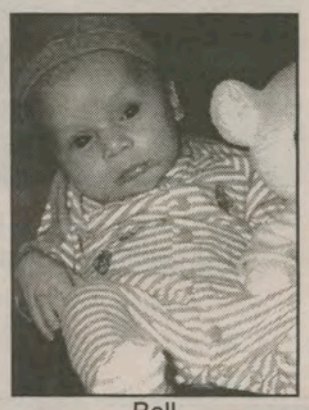
Roth, still a civilian architect for the USAF, has been transferred to Ramstein Air Base in Germany.

He is the son of Morris and Clarice Childers Roth of San Antonio. He is the grandson of the late Clarence and Grace Childers and the great-grandson of the late Daniel and Mildred McIntosh Childers.

Births and birthdays

Russell Louis Bell

MUSKOGEE — Russell Louis Bell was born Sept. 4 to Roger and Tammy Bell of Muskogee.


Bell

Maternal grandparents are Kirby and Lillie Boen of Wainwright. Paternal grandparents are Robert and Louise Bell of Muskogee.

He has one sister Rachel, age five.

Kaelyn Jade Roberts

OKEMAH — Kaelyn Jade Roberts was born March 22 to Jeri Lynn Culley and Roland Roberts.

She belongs to the Alligator Clan and is a member of Okfuskee Tribal Town. Her *estecate hocefkv* is *Cvpke* (pronounced Chup-ke) meaning long.

Roberts

Maternal grandparents are Farron and Irene Culley of Mason. Paternal grandparents are Randy and Laquita Roberts of Cromwell.

Her great-grandparents are: Lorene Culley of Wetumka and Marie and Robert Bemo of Cromwell.

Girl celebrates with party at McDonalds

HENRYETTA — Alaysia Opvnv Williams celebrated her fourth birthday with a Disney princesses party theme on Oct. 27 at McDonalds.

Williams

Williams turned age four on Oct. 29.

She is the daughter of Shawn Williams and Nichol Greene of Henryetta.

Her grandparents are Barton and Rita Williams of Wilson. She is the maternal granddaughter of Tilda Green of Valley Center, Calif. She has one sister, Mehenwa, age one.

She belongs to the Coyote Clan and is the daughter of the Alligator Clan and Kassetv Tribal Town and is of Maskoke and Kumeyaay descent.

Williams is a student at Muscogee Nation's Wilson Head Start Center.

Missouri boy begins teenage years

VERONA, Mo. — Tribal citizen Josiah E. Willis turned 13 on Oct. 25

He is the son of Eric and Candy Willis of Verona, Mo.

Willis is the grandson of Gary Glenn Clinton of Gainesville, Texas, the great-grandson of Woodrow "Woody" Clinton of Slick, and the great-great-grandson of the late Wilson Clinton. He is also a descendant of Ahtata.

Willis is a seventh grade student at Eagle's Nest School in Aurora, Mo.

Community News

Sapulpa community will hold a grocery bingo

SAPULPA — Sapulpa Creek Indian Community Center is hosting a grocery bingo beginning at 6 p.m., Dec. 14.

Concessions will be available throughout the evening. All individuals are encouraged to attend.

The community center is located at 1020 N. Brown St.

Association announces Christmas dinner

OKLAHOMA CITY — Oklahoma City Mvskoke (Creek) Association has scheduled its Christmas dinner to be held from 6 to 8 p.m., Dec. 21.

It is located at 543 S.E. 29th. All individuals are welcome to attend.

The association has new Muscogee calendars available for a $5 donation. This calendar includes Baptist church meeting dates for 2002.

Muscogee community launches web site

MUSKOGEE — Muscogee Indian Community launched its web site — muscogeeic.com — in August.

The site, created and maintained by community Vice Chair Lyle Deere, offers pages in:

- administration — with community officers' photographs and biographies;
- enterprises — with brief background information on its smokeshop including photographs of the smokeshop and management and staff; and
- recent news — with coverage of MIC community news, including community election results, committee assignments, and new members.

Other pages of the site in the developmental stage include: history; current events; calendar; veterans; memorials; photo gallery; and committees.

Bible-Chalakee Reunion meeting being held

TULSA — A meeting to plan a Bible-Chalakee Family Reunion will be held at 7 p.m., on Dec. 11 at Haikey Chapel United Methodist Church.

A reunion date and location will be set at the meeting. The children and grandchildren of Mulsie Bible Chalakee are urged to attend.

For more information, contact Lucille Miller at (918) 486-1155 or Billie Childers at (918) 369-5699.

Veterans Day Observance

Nov. 12th

Muscogee Nation Distric Court Judge Patrick Moore gives the keynote address at the Muscogee Nation Veteran's Day Observance held at the tribal veterans' monument on the complex grounds .

photos by Gerald Wofford

Reverend Jerry Byrd, U.S. Army retired, serves as master of ceremonies during the observance.

Mvskoke Nation Honor Guard members Loy Thomas and Geri Wisner-Foley raise the flag.

Senior Ms. Mvskoke Nation Pearl Thomas and Lyle Deere wave the flag at observance.

Mary Ann Kane, Joyce Deer, Col. Edwin Moore, an Army veteran of World War II, and Roberta Gibson sing the National Anthem.

World War II veteran and Bataan Death March survivor Phillip Coon places a wreath by a marker with names of fallen Muscogee veterans.

Muscogee Nation Honor Guard members George Almerigi, Dugan McIntosh, and Smiley Barnett salute the American flag.

Muscogee Nation Tobacco Prevention & Controls' Camp Smokeout

September 29th

Environmental Specialist Bill Breckenridge displays a prehistoric fossil to students at Camp Smokeout. Breckenridge's wife, Tammy, watches in the background.

photos by Gerald Wofford

Kasetv Tribal Town member Mike Berryhill speaks to youth at Camp Smokeout about the steps involved in making traditional Maskoke long bows.

Kelly Bell of Fishpond Ceremonial Ground, explains the art of ballstick making.

Jake Jackson, Wilson Public School Counselor, talks to srudents about Maskoke hymns.

Alexis Crosely, of the business Creeks For Creeks, tells student Amy Bittle about the uses of turtle shells in Maskoke ceremonial dancing.

Students give their full attention to Breckenridge during the one of Camp Smokeout's many sessions.

Tribal Tobacco Prevention and Control Manager Cynthia Coachman and Camp Smokeout Counselor Teresa Roberts display a camp 5K run T-shirt. The shirt was given out to all students who participated in the Sunday morning jog.

JOHNNY BUCKNER III

HENRYETTA — Funeral services for Johnny Daniel Buckner III were held Sept. 8 at Robert Simons Funeral Home Chapel with Revs. John Buckner and Robert Washington officiating.

Wake services were held Sept. 7 at the chapel.

He died on Sept. 6 in Wagoner; he was born March 16, 1970 to John and Darlene Washington Buckner. Buckner was baptized on Nov. 23, 1975 at Little Springs Baptist Church in Oklahoma City and was a member of Belvin Baptist Church in Okmulgee. He was employed at as a certified medicine assistant at Leisure Manor Nursing Home. He enjoyed spending time with his daughter and playing softball.

He was preceded in death by his grandmother, Lucille Bear.

Survivors include: his parents; one daughter, Kaci Buckner of Henryetta; a sister, Patricia Buckner of Morris; two brothers, Marcy Washington of Okmulgee and Dion Washington of Oklahoma City; nieces and nephew, Lydia, Christopher, and Lydia of Morris, and Blake of Colony, Texas; and many other relatives and friends.

Pallbearers were: Darren Delaune; Kenneth Bear; Jacy Ramirez; Lonnie Ramirez; James Lee; and Mekko Bear. Honorary pallbearer was Yancy Bear.

Interment was at the Bear Family Cemetery.

WILLIAM DUNSON

OKEMAH — Funeral services for William Richard Dunson were held Aug. 23 at Thlopthlocco United Methodist Church with the Revs. Dave Long Jr. and Paul Maxey officiating.

He died on Aug. 20 in Tulsa; he was born March 13, 1946 in Okemah to Rev. Earl and Lucille Cook Dunson. Dunson was a veteran of the U.S. Army and served as a paratrooper in the 173rd Airborne Division during the Vietnam War. He was awarded the Purple Heart medal. He married Lela Yahola on March 23, 1968 in Wetumka. Dunson was proud of his sons and was an avid supporter of their sports activities. He rarely missed attending their practices, games, and tournaments in baseball, football, and wrestling. He was retired from Shell Oil Company.

Preceding him in death were: his father; brother, James Earl; and sister, Blanche.

Survivors include: his wife, Lela; sons, Brandon and Jeremy, both of Bixby; mother, Lucille Dunson of Glenpool; brother, Steven Walker Dunson of Mounds; four sisters, Lorene Lusty of Glenpool; Marian Mitchell and Genese Switch, both of Midwest City; Beverly Parker of Jenks; two grandchildren, Gage Michael and Claudia Corin Dunson; and many other relatives and friends.

Pallbearers were: Conny Hart; Dennis Canard; Gary Dunson; Luther Johnson; Danny Johnson; and Ernest Gonzales.

Interment was at Thlopthlocco Church Cemetery.

ELDON KANO

HANNA — Funeral services for Eldon Lewis Kano were held Sept. 20 at Weogufkee Baptist Church with Revs. Johnson Roberts and Rudolph Colbert officiating.

Wake services were held Sept. 19 at the church.

He died on Sept. 16; He was born Nov. 11, 1935 to Jonas Lewis Kano and Alice Simmons in McIntosh County. He was married to Sissie Factor Lewis. Kano enjoyed visiting many of the local churches as well as leading songs at ceremonial ground dances. He enjoyed salvaging old automobiles and gardening as well.

Preceding him in death were: his parents; one brother, Kenneth Lewis; one sister, Nahka Carpitcher; and one stepdaughter, Linda Jacobs.

Survivors include: his wife of the home; four daughters, Frances Lewis of Eufaula, Pauline Lewis of Shawnee, Christine Fixico of Dustin, and Chippie Lewis of Okemah; three sons, Thomas Lewis of Hanna, Sampson Lewis of Henryetta, and Harley Lewis of Ada; two stepdaughters, Laura Beaver of Morris, and Loretta Thomas of Okmulgee; two adopted daughters, Shelley and Crystal Jacobs, both of Okmulgee; one adopted son, Johnny Jacobs Jr.; grandson, Mose Lewis of Bentonville, Ark..; three brothers, Sonnie Lewis of Dustin, Bunny Lewis of Hanna, and Walter Lewis Sr. of Henryetta; one sister, Fannie Barnett of Dewar; and many other relatives and friends.

Casketbearers were: Jeff Fixico; Leo Tiger; J.D. Harley; Sherman Hicks; Smiley Barnett; and Ruben Starr. Honorary casketbearer was Billy Hill.

Interment was at the Lewis Family Cemetery in Vernon.

LISA MADRID

GLENPOOL — Funeral services for Lisa Ann Madrid were held Aug. 28, 2001 at Haikey Chapel United Methodist Church.

She died on Aug. 23; She was born Feb. 10, 1958 in Danville, Calif. Madrid graduated from San Ramon High School in 1976 and studied at the Fashion Merchandising Institute in San Francisco, Calif. She worked in the fashion industry for three years in Las Vegas, Nev. She worked for 14 years in banking, holding various positions from bank teller to financial counselor. Her most recent position had been as supervisor for First Data in Tulsa. Madrid accompanied her mother to Oklahoma in 1985 when her mother chose to return to her birthplace to retire. She was a descendent of the Locapokv — the first Maskokvlke to arrive in Indian Territory. She was the granddaughter and great-granddaughter of Emmet Bible and Mulsie Chisholm and Lewis Bible.

She is survived by: three children, Stirling Madrid of Glenpool, Jordan Taylor of Michigan, and Sheridan Guffey of Arkansas; her mother, Bobbe Kennedy of Glenpool; her father, Louis John Madrid of Walnut Creek, Calif.; brothers, Dennis Kish of Concord, Calif., Mark Madrid of Lakeland, Fla., and Paul Johnathan Madrid of Sapulpa; sisters, Margo O'Dell of Park City, Utah., and Jaime Faris of Macksville, Iowa; and many other relatives.

Interment was at Oak Grove Cemetery in Broken Arrow.

NELLIE PROCTOR

YEAGER — Funeral services for Nellie Proctor were held on Oct. 10 at the McGirt Family Cemetery with Linda Stewart officiating.

She died on Oct. 8 in Holdenville; she was born on April 6, 1917 in Yeager to Buckner and Linda Beaver McGirt.

Proctor was raised in Yeager and attended Yeager School. She was married to Millard Proctor; the lived in Hughes County for the duration of their lives together. He preceded her in death in 1985. She was a homemaker. Proctor was a member of Pecan Grove Methodist Church. She enjoyed sewing, quilting, and gardening.

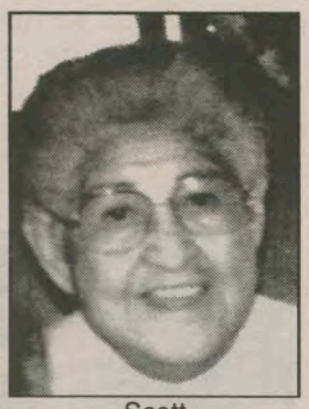
Survivors include several nieces, nephews, and other relatives and friends.

Interment was at the McGirt Family Cemetery, near Yeager.

NETTIE SCOTT

DUSTIN — Funeral services for Nettie Wesley Scott were held Oct. 6 at Thewarle Indian Baptist Church with Revs. Eugene Whitlow and Jimmy Alexander officiating.

She died at Tulsa Regional Medical Center on Oct. 6; she was born on Dec. 23, 1924 in Dustin to Eddie and Bessie Scott Wesley. Nettie was a lifelong resident of the Dustin and Weleetka areas and was married to Edward E. Scott Sr. who preceded her in death in 1980.


Scott

She was very active in various organizations such as: the Women's Marine Association Chapter #1 in Tulsa; Weleetka Indian Community of which she had served as chair; tribal Council member; tribal citizenship board of which she had served as chair; Creek Nation Hospital Board of which she had served as chair. She had worked as a home school aide for the Weleetka Public School for over 20 years before retiring. She was a member of Thewarle Baptist Church near Dustin and was an avid fan of the Dallas Cowboys professional football team.

Preceding her in death include: son, David Richard Scott; brothers, Richard Lee "Kvco" Wesley, Tommy Ray "Sonny Boy" Wesley, and Charles Mose "Chebon" Wiley.

Survivors include: children, Edward Scott Jr. of Weleetka and Ronnie Scott of Okmulgee; one stepdaughter, Lorene Baker of Stillwater; sisters, Frances Miller of Weleetka and Etta Jean Conner of Glenpool; stepbrother, Louis "Speedy" Wiley of Tulsa; eight grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; and many other relatives and friends.

Pallbearers were grandsons: Frank Scott; Rodney Scott; Reggie Scott; Chris Hill; Nick Hill; and Scott West.

Interment was at the Robertson Family Cemetery, Graham Community.

Religion

Creek Chapel holding New Year's services

OKEMAH — Creek Chapel Methodist Church is holding its annual all night New Year's services beginning at 7:30 p.m., Dec. 31.

The church pastor is Rev. Edwin Jimboy.

For more information call Franklin Beaver, church chair, at (918) 623-1077.

Pickett Chapel celebrates centennial

SAPULPA — Pickett Chapel United Methodist Church held its centennial celebration on Sept. 29 and 30.

On Sept. 29 Choctaw singing was provided by Mary Lee Clark and Angie Smith Memorial United Methodist churches. A memorial service for former pastors, exhorters, and class leaders was held and was followed by dinner, fellowship, and sharing. An exhibit of old photos was also displayed for the duration of the day.

On Sept. 30 Euchee, Maskoke, and English hymns were sung as a part of its worship services. The centennial and memorial service speaker was Helen Chupco of Muskogee. Chupco is the widow of Rev. Lee Chupco who served as a district superintendent to the Northeast District. A fellowship dinner was held following services.

The first Euchee church structure was located one mile west of the current location on Hickory Road. It was called Snow Chapel and was erected around 1901. When the Snow Chapel congregation grew, it was moved to a new site; in 1915 the present church ground was cleared and construction began. It was at this place that the name Pickett Chapel was chosen.

Benham

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www.remax.com. In 1998, he and his staff created RE/MAX Mainstreet, the only real estate industry extranet. With a staff of 26 in the information technology division, Benham not only coordinates the development of Internet services and software programs for members of the network, but also the strategic alliances with numerous third party vendors and suppliers for development, expansion, and maintenance of the RE/MAX telecommunication system, including non-RE/MAX entities including: EDR Travel; Sanctuary Golf Course; and The Wildlife Experience Museum and Cultural Center; and others..

The award Benham received was bestowed upon him after going through a nomination process in which 1,500 other nominees were being considered. "We established strong criteria for this award," said Dr. Sueann Ambron, dean of the graduate school of business at the University of Colorado at Denver. "The candidate to be honored must have demonstrated excellence and balance in terms of contributions to the success of their company and our community."

Previous to joining RE/MAX, Benham was vice president MIS/Business Support Services for VICORP Restaurants (Village Inn Corporation), in Denver, Colo., where he was responsible for developing a revolutionary hardware and software information system for the company and its 425 restaurants. He also served as: director of information systems consulting for Coopers and Lybrand; as manager-data processing quality assurance for CitiBank Diners Club; and district manager-computer operations at Mountain Bell.

He is a certified computer professional and has participated in extensive advanced technical and managerial training programs. He earned a bachelor of university studies with majors in architecture and mathematics from the University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, in 1973.

"We are all very proud of Bruce and his many advanced accomplishments in technology for RE/MAX network," said Darryl Jesperson, president of RE/MAX International. "He is a talented and congenial man who has many friends around the world because of his talent, skills, and personality. Certainly, we all believe he is deserving of this award and appreciate CITI and UCD for honoring him."

Benham's wife, Deb, is also in the real estate business serving as a full time real estate professional with RE/MAX since 1989. The couple have two kids, Brian, 31 and Brooks, 27. Benham's parents are William and Bobbye Benham of Littleton, Colo. Benham says his Muscogee blood comes from his grandfather — William Benham Sr. who once served as Hughes County Commissioner. Benham's aunts, Billye Jo Bruner and Inez Provost, reside in Holdenville and Albuquerque, N.M., respectively.

RE/MAX is included in a new book, "50 Companies That Changed the World," authored by Howard Rothman and published by Career Press. The book also includes popular companies such as: Microsoft; Ford; McDonalds; CBS; and the The Walt Disney Company. Dave Liniger, chairman of RE/MAX, said upon receiving the honor "it's a revelation to discover that someone was keeping score out there and that the thousands of entrepreneurial sales associates, franchises, and regional owners in the RE/MAX network truly have made the world a better place. I hope so." So does one Muscogee (Creek) citizen, who was very instrumental in making it all a reality.

Women

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together. I believe it is this role each of us, as women, now fill or...learned from as we grew up [and] will allow us to have a deeper compassion for the struggles our people face and the strength to address those needs."

She said she believes that the number of women on the 12th session of Council will make issues regarding family, youth, and elders even more of a priority.

"Many of the women who will be on the National Council have served their community in some aspect, whether it is leadership at their respective stomp grounds, community centers, or churches and have demonstrated a connection with Creek citizens to know their struggles. It is this connection with our community family, combined with our immediate family, which will create a government more sensitive to the needs of the Creek citizens."

photo by Denise Jacobs

Bill Jones, Muscogee Nation Okmulgee Senior Citizens chair, Martha Johnson, Morris senior citizen, and Esther Gee, Okmulgee Senior Citizens treasurer, assemble a newly purchased tree. Tribal Controller James Pratt, far right, was on hand to assist with assembling the tree that is currently on display in front of the Okmulgee Senior Citizens Gift Shop.

Notices

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Elder council elects new officers

OKMULGEE — The Mvskoke Elder Council elected new officers at its Nov. 7 monthly meeting.

New officers are: Shirley Almerigi, chairperson; DeLois Johnson, vice chairperson; Mary Barnes, secretary; Wilma Berryhill, treasurer; Sue Ann Davis, historian/parliamentarian.

Meeting dates for 2002 are tentatively scheduled for 10 a.m., Jan. 2 and July 3 at the Okmulgee Nutrition Center, located in the human development building on the tribal capitol complex.

Members are currently planning a quilting project. They are also planning a March trip to Florida as well attending the National Indian Council On Aging Conference in Albuquerque in September.

Elders needing transportation to attend elder council meetings may contact the Muscogee Nation Senior Services Department at (918) 756-8700.

Claremore Indian hospital offers vaccine

CLAREMORE — Influenza vaccine in now available at Claremore Indian Hospital and at other Indian health care facilities for those that are eligible for care.

Influenza can be prevented with this safe, effective vaccine, said Ellen D. Wolfe, CIH immunization coordinator. Yearly influenza vaccine is recommended for: all persons 50 years of age or older; youth ages six months or older who have chronic illness; youth ages six months to 18 years of age who are receiving chronic aspirin therapy; and pregnant women. Influenza vaccine is also recommended for household members of high risk individuals and anyone who wishes to reduce the likelihood of Influenza, Wolfe said.

Influenza clinics at Claremore Indian Hospital will be held Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. beginning in November and will be available through March 2002. For more information, call (918) 342-6449.

Creek-owned company introduces new line

MUSKOGEE — Native American Equipment and Supply, Inc. — Native American "One Source" Healthcare Supply is introducing two new herbal based products developed specifically for the company's "Native Magic" line.

The first product, Native Magic Red Rub, is a product developed for people with arthritis or sore, aching muscles. Ingredients include whole leaf aloe vera, MSM, and emu oil. The second product, Native Magic All Purpose Foot Cream is a product developed for people with diabetes or dry feet, heels, and hands. Ingredients include whole leaf aloe vera, tea tree oil, and eucalyptus oil.

Muscogee tribal citizen Woody Anderson, president, said the company is in the process of setting up a network of dealers throughout the United States. "We have had great response from everyone who has used either product," Anderson said.

Anderson, of Muscogee-Choctaw descent, was recently featured on the television show "Inside Native America" introducing the new product line.

For more information, call 1 (800) 677-3586; (918) 686-7373; see www.indianowned.com or www.nativemagiconline.com.

Euchee

continued from page 4

ceremonies separate from those of the Maskoke — at their own Euchee ceremonial grounds.

Today, many Euchee people are enrolled with the Muscogee Nation and some individuals of Euchee descent are concerned that if they complete an application form with the Euchee Tribe that it will affect their benefit status with Muscogee Nation. This cannot happen as the Euchee Tribe is not a federally recognized tribe, according to the news release. This enrollment will not affect individuals current tribal status or benefits that they are receiving. If, in the future, this enrollment is used to document a petition for federal or state recognition, tribally-enrolled individuals of Euchee descent will may choose to be enrolled with the Euchee or remain with the tribe in which they are currently a member.

To request a group meeting, schedule an office or home visit, or for more information, community members with Euchee ancestry may call: the Euchee (Yuchi) Tribe of Indians' office at (918) 224-3065 or (918) 224-7469.

Program	Receipts	Budgets	Encumbered	Expended	Balance
MCN LEGAL DEFENSE FUND	14,677.00	238,155.00	0.00	(25,392.00)	263,547.00
CN SALES TAX	111,893.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
BINGO RESERVE	4,201,695.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TREASURY	1,526,222.00	84,666.00	7,393.00	1,518,279.00	(1,441,006.00)
LITIGATION & LOBBYING	6,684.00	57,709.00	0.00	0.00	57,709.00
GENERAL TAXES & LICENSES	1,197,488.00	1,483,774.00	15,673.00	1,175,879.00	292,222.00
MOTOR FUEL TAXES	1,496,107.00	2,502,826.00	10,997.00	2,006,742.00	485,087.00
ADMINISTRATION/INDIRECT	2,035,099.00	2,109,433.00	19,464.00	1,972,526.00	117,443.00
RAMAH CONTRACT SUPPORT	750,560.00	0.00	0.00	54,000.00	(54,000.00)
CONSUMER LOANS	21,992.00	0.00	0.00	9,950.00	(9,950.00)
CREEK NATION BINGO	4,910,422.00	3,679,919.00	44,886.00	2,867,650.00	767,383.00
CN PERMANENT FUND	3,510,969.00	542,327.00	3,793.00	338,259.00	200,275.00
TOM JOHNSON PERM FUND	(534,917.00)	0.00	0.00	30,276.00	(30,276.00)
BOK SETTLEMENT	15,250.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CULTURAL PRESERVATION	1,043.00	4,000.00	52.00	885.00	3,063.00
HOLDENVILLE COMMUNITY	19,737.00	9,400.00	0.00	9,210.00	190.00
A.G. EDWARDS	(124,586.00)	0.00	0.00	18,301.00	(18,301.00)
GENERAL CODIFICATION	102,196.00	100,000.00	0.00	0.00	100,000.00
4-H CLUB	12,608.00	12,607.00	0.00	0.00	12,607.00
TRIBAL BUDGET	1,100,286.00	1,190,866.00	10,542.00	1,088,743.00	91,581.00
MOTOR VEHICLE	1,472,262.00	1,400,361.00	51,323.00	918,648.00	430,390.00
HEALTH EDUCATION	22,276.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
WIA-TITLE I	461,074.00	548,156.00	3,633.00	489,998.00	54,525.00
WIA-SUMMER YOUTH	100,946.00	107,351.00	395.00	100,961.00	5,995.00
WIA-TITLE I '01	37,138.00	665,091.00	133.00	48,461.00	616,497.00
WIA-SUMMER YOUTH '01	354,856.00	541,288.00	2,062.00	365,113.00	174,113.00
WELFARE TO WORK	126,746.00	189,244.00	0.00	131,942.00	57,302.00
JTPA TITLE IV-A	12,858.00	80,175.00	33,641.00	14,390.00	32,144.00
SUMMER YOUTH '99	1,996.00	28,870.00	18,667.00	2,230.00	7,973.00
WELFARE TO WORK '99	77,379.00	121,690.00	0.00	81,091.00	40,599.00
HUD-MUSKOGEE TRAVEL PLAZA	255,715.00	702,621.00	446,906.00	255,715.00	0.00
HUD-NAHASDA '00	13,436,165.00	16,000,912.00	13,433.00	2,423,900.00	13,563,579.00
HUD-ROSS '01	10,127.00	250,000.00	0.00	10,127.00	239,873.00
DRUG ELIMINATION	10,135.00	560,277.00	0.00	10,135.00	550,142.00
HUD-NAHASDA '98	6,779,755.00	6,411,986.00	0.00	2,511,245.00	3,900,741.00
HUD-NAHASDA '99	9,369,860.00	8,876,014.00	6,855.00	2,117,534.00	6,751,625.00
LIHEAP '00	33,027.00	33,027.00	0.00	33,027.00	0.00
FAMILY PRESERVATION '00	175,800.00	191,763.00	10,699.00	176,772.00	4,292.00
CCDBG '00	377,610.00	433,462.00	14,212.00	407,322.00	11,928.00
HEAD START '00	778,000.00	927,452.00	7,483.00	776,408.00	143,561.00
TITLE IV-B '00	126,635.00	168,341.00	8,506.00	135,057.00	24,778.00
FAMILY VIOLENCE '00	169,308.00	218,571.00	14,094.00	178,519.00	25,958.00
LIHEAP '01	120,096.00	131,906.00	60.00	121,876.00	9,970.00
FAMILY PRESERVATION '01	45,883.00	196,898.00	25.00	49,777.00	147,096.00
CCDBG-DISCRETIONARY	927,496.00	1,360,819.00	3,017.00	952,011.00	405,791.00
CCDBG-MANATORY	1,693,925.00	2,309,711.00	16,453.00	1,727,839.00	565,419.00
HEADSTART '01	1,233,847.00	1,948,423.00	54,357.00	1,271,301.00	622,765.00
TITLE IV-B '01	65,104.00	239,501.00	0.00	68,712.00	170,789.00
FAMILY VIOLENCE '01	0.00	255,044.00	0.00	0.00	255,044.00
CCDBG '99 MANDATORY	105,834.00	115,866.00	3,008.00	105,955.00	6,903.00
TITLE IV-B '99	0.00	0.00	0.00	(7.00)	7.00
FOOD DISTRIBUTION '01	341,942.00	414,000.00	43,226.00	347,774.00	23,000.00
FEMA	129,886.00	127,685.00	0.00	42,024.00	85,661.00
JOM EARLY CHILDHOOD	250.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
JOHNSON O'MALLEY	9,615.00	46,000.00	8,065.00	15,950.00	21,985.00
MCN CHILD DEV. CENTER	478,745.00	220,000.00	1,115.00	124,508.00	94,377.00
USDA HEADSTART REIMBURSE	80,472.00	76,919.00	11,700.00	62,103.00	3,116.00
EUFAULA DORM ACTIVITY FUND	30,005.00	22,453.00	0.00	12,838.00	9,615.00
SENIOR SERVICES	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00
ELECTION BOARD	9,546.00	950.00	0.00	0.00	950.00
COMMUNICATIONS REVOLVING	1,428.00	6,992.00	0.00	2,442.00	4,550.00
CITIZENSHIP BOARD	14,018.00	7,621.00	0.00	4,724.00	2,897.00
FOOD DIST. PROG. INCOME	2,286.00	1,000.00	73.00	910.00	17.00
EXXON-ENERGY COST	1,300.00	1,300.00	0.00	1,300.00	0.00
C.D. REVOLVING FUND	312.00	1,000.00	89.00	614.00	297.00
LIGHTHORSE PROG. INCOME	1,925.00	5,800.00	0.00	2,627.00	3,173.00
SELF-GOVERNANCE INTEREST	27,750.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PROVIDING OPP. WITH ALGEBRA	197,063.00	241,388.00	1,956.00	197,063.00	42,369.00
DOE-LIBRARY SERVICE BASIC	4,000.00	4,000.00	121.00	2,607.00	1,272.00
DOE-LIBRARY TECH GRANT	2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00	2,000.00	0.00
SELF-GOVERNANCE COMPACT	5,668,943.00	5,283,277.00	65,122.00	4,365,431.00	852,724.00
JOM-EARLY CHILDHOOD '00	4,475.00	4,475.00	0.00	4,475.00	0.00
JOHNSON O'MALLEY '00	311,089.00	310,065.00	121.00	289,029.00	20,915.00
DOI-ENVIRN CLEAN-UP	0.00	24,750.00	0.00	0.00	24,750.00
EUFAULA DORM '00	1,585,424.00	1,541,692.00	132,700.00	890,665.00	518,327.00
00 TRANSPORTATION IMPROV.	1,781.00	56,394.00	0.00	0.00	56,394.00
JOM EARLY CHILDHOOD '01	14,244.00	14,447.00	0.00	0.00	14,447.00
JOHNSON O'MALLEY '01	976,605.00	971,412.00	6,616.00	490,989.00	473,807.00
EUFAULA DORM '01	405,586.00	402,612.00	52,151.00	0.00	350,461.00
LAMAR ROAD	197,600.00	200,000.00	0.00	197,600.00	2,400.00
IRR SPECIAL PLANNING	26,068.00	32,589.00	0.00	26,067.00	6,522.00
KELLYVILLE ROAD	0.00	5,000.00	0.00	0.00	5,000.00
LITTLE CUSSETH CHURCH RD	1,039.00	160,000.00	0.00	1,038.00	158,962.00
OKEMAH SCHOOL ROAD	0.00	650,000.00	587,400.00	0.00	62,600.00
THEWARLE CHURCH ROAD	0.00	250,000.00	0.00	0.00	250,000.00
PORTER ROAD	2,721.00	500,000.00	338,548.00	2,720.00	158,732.00
OLD BIXBY ROAD	0.00	917,202.00	0.00	0.00	917,202.00
EQUIPMENT POOL	338,702.00	338,702.00	0.00	338,702.00	0.00
KELLYVILLE PROJECT	665,514.00	4,417,934.00	16,700.00	666,495.00	3,734,739.00
EUFAULA DORM '97	206,354.00	195,846.00	88,414.00	107,207.00	225.00
EUFAULA DORM '98	12,615.00	12,301.00	0.00	11,419.00	882.00
99 JOM EARLY CHILDHOOD	430.00	430.00	0.00	430.00	0.00
JOHNSON O'MALLEY '99	0.00	0.00	0.00	(250.00)	250.00
99 EUFAULA DORM	463,489.00	449,322.00	0.00	304,406.00	144,916.00
99 TRANSPORTATION IMPROV	1,889.00	20,781.00	0.00	4,205.00	16,576.00
MONTEZUMA PROJECT	68,983.00	695,504.00	40,000.00	71,783.00	583,721.00
CHILDREN'S ALLIANCE	14,987.00	14,987.00	0.00	11,206.00	3,781.00
WATER QUALITY	15,419.00	22,941.00	0.00	14,673.00	8,268.00
TRIBAL RESOURCES (COPS)	1,290.00	2,552.00	0.00	1,290.00	1,262.00
VICTIMS ASSISTANCE	22,956.00	40,000.00	0.00	23,432.00	16,568.00
JUVENILE DELINQUENCY	9,600.00	20,000.00	0.00	14,183.00	5,817.00
VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN	2,734.00	161,207.00	0.00	22,099.00	139,108.00
DRUG COURT	42,274.00	87,585.00	329.00	38,095.00	49,161.00
EPA	78,589.00	192,594.00	461.00	79,742.00	112,391.00
MUSKOGEE TRAVEL PLAZA	2,837,910.00	2,750,000.00	1,615,843.00	1,134,157.00	0.00
COMMUNITY CENTERS PROJ	5,774.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TRAVEL PLAZA ENTERPRISE	1,005,202.00	0.00	0.00	2,750,000.00	(2,750,000.00)
TRIBAL AGRICULTURE PROG.	3,283.00	4,000.00	0.00	2,008.00	1,992.00
LIGHTHORSE SERVICES	365,851.00	314,723.00	0.00	294,335.00	20,388.00
MCN FLAGS & ETC	1,311.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
ROADS EQUIPMENT POOL	598,860.00	393,000.00	47,787.00	106,199.00	239,014.00
C.N. EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	36,557.00	0.00	0.00	8,783.00	(8,783.00)
C.N. TAXES & FRINGE	34,709.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
NEIL CAMPBELL SCHOLARSHIP	78.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
ROAD FORCE ACCOUNT	421,083.00	676,730.00	15,131.00	520,897.00	140,702.00
TRIBAL- REAL PROP & FAC.	1,621,969.00	2,715,842.00	274,076.00	1,501,289.00	940,477.00
TRIBAL- PROPERTY & SUPPLY	63,819.00	110,797.00	0.00	55,249.00	55,548.00
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS	198,346.00	63,855.00	0.00	383,401.00	(319,546.00)
SELF-INSURED HLTH FUND	1,653,147.00	0.00	0.00	1,543,365.00	(1,543,365.00)
C.N. FOUND. SCHOLARSHIP	4,214.00	0.00	0.00	2,480.00	(2,480.00)
EUFAULA DORM SCHOLARSHIP	30.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTALS	**80,083,364.00**	**83,236,158.00**	**4,169,506.00**	**43,650,145.00**	**35,416,507.00**

Muscogee (Creek) Nation quarterly financial statement

Quarter ending June 30, 2001
Prepared by the office of the controller

In accordance with National Council Act 88-70, section 112, as amended by NCA 89-37, the following information for the period ending June 30, 2001 discloses the receipts, budget, encumbrances, expenditures, and balance for all funds under the control of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

The **receipts** are dollar amounts received for the period ending June 30, 2001. The figures include, but are not limited to, federal dollars received on grants or contracts, interest earned during the quarter, and revenues generated by the tribe. The total dollars spent represent the amount spent to date for the second quarter ending June 30, 2001.

The **budget** figure represents the amounts approved in the comprehensive annual budget.

The **encumbered** amounts include figures derived from outstanding purchase orders at the end of the year.

Expended amounts state the total amount that has been spent for each department, within that fund.

The **balance** figures reflect the net available for each department at the end of June 30, 2001.

Any questions regarding this report may be directed to the office of the controller at (918) 756-8700, ext. 250.

Published in *The Muscogee Nation News*, Volume 30, Issue 12, December 2001

United States Department of the Interior
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Eastern Oklahoma Regional Office

Notice of availability of an Environmental Assessment (EA) and a Finding Of No Significant Impact statement (FONSI) for approval of the following: a federal business lease, tribal land trust acquisition, federal involvement in building construction/design, and federal responsibility for adherence to all applicable laws and regulations for building construction: within the city of Muskogee, Muskogee County, Oklahoma.

Action: Notice

Summary: This notice advises the public that an Environmental Assessment (EA) and a Finding Of No Significant Impact (FONSI) are available for public review and has been prepared for the following Federal actions: 1) Signing a 10-Year Building Business Lease; 2) Placing a tract of land, comprising approximately 60 acres, in USA in Trust for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation; and 3) Federal activities, specifically BIA's oversight/involvement for the building construction, design, and responsibility for adherence to all applicable local, federal, state, and tribal laws and regulations. This notice is furnished as required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Regulations (40 CFR 1506.6 and 1506.6 (b)) to provide public notice and to inform those persons and agencies who may be interested or affected.

Dates: Individuals wishing copies of these environmental documents for review should immediately contact the Acting Regional Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Eastern Oklahoma Regional Office, Muskogee, Oklahoma, Telephone Number: (918) 687-2296.

Address: Request for documents should be addressed to: Mr. Dan Deerinwater, Acting Regional Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Eastern Oklahoma Regional Office, 101 North 5th Street, Muskogee, Oklahoma 74401-6206.

For Further Information Contact: Ms. Pamela Snyder-Osman, Regional Environmental Scientist, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Eastern Oklahoma Regional Office, 101 North 5th Street, Muskogee, Oklahoma 74401-6206, Telephone Number: Toll-free 1-800-204-0552.

Supplemental Information: The BIA, Eastern Oklahoma Regional Office, U.S. Department of the Interior, has approved an EA and FONSI for the following BIA actions: signing a 10-year Building Lease, determining square footage of the building to be constructed, having management oversight of the building construction, and ensuring adherence to applicable local, state, tribal, and federal laws: including, placing the business-lease property in USA in Trust for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. The primary purpose for the proposed actions is to provide a regional office building on tribal trust land for the Eastern Oklahoma Region of BIA. The building is to be built by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. The description of the property evaluated for Trust Acquisition is as follows:

Approximately 60 acres within the South Half (S/2) South east Quarter (SE/4) Section 4. Township 14 North, Range 18 East, Muskogee County, Muskogee, Oklahoma.

The activities referenced above constitute federal actions under the governing regulations for compliance with Section 102(2) of NEPA and requires a concise public document to be prepared that analyzes environmental impacts to the human environment. The EA has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of NEPA, as amended, (42 U.S.C. 4321), the BIA Manual (30 BIAM, Supplement I), and other applicable environmental statutes and regulations.

/s/Dan Deerinwater
Acting Regional Director
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Eastern Oklahoma Regional Office
U.S. Department of The Interior

Published in *The Muscogee Nation News*, Volume 30, Issue 12, December 2001
Cause CD No. 200-105946-T

Applicant: Explorer Energy Corporation
Relief Sought: Pooling
Land Covered: SE/4 of Section 10, Township 10 North, Range 13 East, McIntosh County, Oklahoma Cause CD. No. 200-105946-T

Notice of Hearing

THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA: To the following parties, if living; or if deceased, then their unknown

heirs, devisees, executors, administrators, successors, trustees, and/or assigns; or, the unknown successors, trustees or assigns, if any, of any dissolved corporation, or the unknown successors of any party designated in any record as trustee: Nora S. Helm, F. C. Helm, J. T. Ayers, Bennie Harjo, Susie Vann Logan, James Vann, Susie Vann, Nicey Harjo Logan, John Logan, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Land Mgmt., Muskogee (Creek) Nation and all persons, owners, producers, operators, purchasers and takers of oil and gas and all other interested persons in McIntosh County, Oklahoma.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Applicant in this cause is requesting that the Commission pool all oil and gas interests in the Calvin, Boggy, Bartlesville, Upper Booch, Lower Booch, Hartshorne, Upper Gilcrease, Middle Gilcrease, Lower Gilcrease, Spiro, Wapanucka, Union Valley, Cromwell, and Jefferson common sources of supply for the 160-acre drilling and spacing unit consisting of the SE/4 of Section 10, Township 10 North, Range 13 East, McIntosh County, Oklahoma, adjudicating the rights and equities of the oil and gas owners thereof.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the Applicant in this cause is requesting the following special relief:

(a) Designation of Brower Oil & Gas Co., Inc. as operator of the unit well.

(b) The Applicant shall request at the hearing that the order provide that any owner electing an alternative to participation in the well drilled thereunder shall be deemed to have relinquished all of its working interest and right to drill in the unit and common sources of supply named herein as to such well and any wells drilled subsequent thereto.

(c) The Applicant may propose that the order to issue in this cause provide a method for proposal of subsequent wells and for response to that proposal by owners who elect to participate in the initial well.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that this cause be set before an Administrative Law Judge for hearing, taking of evidence and reporting to the Commission.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that this cause will be heard before an Administrative Law Judge on the Initial Hearing Docket at the Corporation Commission, Suite 114, 440 South Houston, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74127, at 8:30 a.m., on the 31st day of December, 2001, and that this notice be published as required by law and the rules of the Commission.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the Applicant and interested parties may present testimony by telephone. The cost of telephonic communication shall be paid by the person or persons requesting its use. Interested parties who wish to participate by telephone shall contact the Applicant or Applicant's attorney prior to the hearing date and provide their name and phone number.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that all interested persons may appear and be heard. For information concerning this application, contact Ronald O. Ray, Jr., OBA #10936, Hall, Estill, Hardwick, Gable, Golden & Nelson, P.C., 320 South Boston Avenue, Suite 400, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74103-3708, (918) 594-0400, Attorney for Applicant.

CORPORATION COMMISSION OF OKLAHOMA
Denise A. Bode, Chairman
Bob Anthony, Vice-Chairman
Ed Apple, Commissioner
DONE AND PERFORMED this 13th day of November, 2001
BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:
Peggy Mitchell, Secretary of the Commission

Published in *The Muscogee Nation News*, Volume 30, Issue 12, December 2001
Cause CD No. 200-105947-T

Applicant: Explorer Energy Corporation
Relief Sought: Pooling
Land Covered: SW/4 of Section 10, Township 10 North, Range 13 East, McIntosh County, Oklahoma Cause CD. No. 200-105947-T

Notice of Hearing

THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA: To the following parties, if living; or if deceased, then their unknown heirs, devisees, executors, administrators, successors, trustees, and/or assigns; or, the unknown successors, trustees or assigns, if any, of any dissolved corporation, or the unknown successors of any party designated in any record as trustee: Charley McNac, Hanna McNac, Alex Walker, George Walker, Ella Walker Taylor, Barney Walker, Johnnie Frye, Minnie Harjo Whitlow, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Land Mgmt., Muskogee (Creek) Nation, and all persons, owners, producers, operators, purchasers and takers of oil and gas and all other interested persons in McIntosh County, Oklahoma.

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CORPORATION COMMISSION OF OKLAHOMA
Denise A. Bode, Chairman
Bob Anthony, Vice-Chairman
Ed Apple, Commissioner
DONE AND PERFORMED this 13th day of November, 2001
BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:
Peggy Mitchell, Secretary of the Commission

Muscogee Nation Radio Program
9:30 a.m. each Wednesday
KOKL-AM 1240

Council House Museum Maskoke Christmas singers

Maskoke Christmas singers, pictured, left to right, front are: Elise Berryhill; Doris Sumka; Fannie Barnett; Dianna Weisz; Georgia Layton; Rita Williams; and Norma Jean Bible; back (view obstructed on some individuals) — Smiley Barnett; Pat Factor; Rachel Layton; Ted Isham; Christine Berryhill; Sampson Lewis; and Ray Scott.

Tune in to hear special Christmas programming on Dec. 19:

The "Fus Harjo Family" Christmas saga continues...
Live Maskoke Christmas singing...
Tribal news and more...